

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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1890										
Knight	James	Loxton Loxton	William Sarah Ann	01	01	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Knight charged William Loxton of Market Street, labourer, and his wife, Sarah Ann, with being drunk and disorderly. Knight first encountered Sarah Ann Loxton at the bottom of Union Street where she was so drunk that she was unable to stand. A young man volunteered to see her home. Soon afterwards Knight was called to Queen Street where he found Sarah Ann Loxton being dragged along the road by her husband, William Loxton, who was drunk and very excitable with much shouting and swearing. Testimony from Mary Ann Trimm of Mill Lane stated that Loxton had knocked his wife down 3 times and bloodied her face. Both defendants were found guilty of being drunk and disorderly and were ordered to share the costs of 16/- with William Loxton being fined a further 10/- and his wife 5/-.	1890/001
Justices		Wickenden	Robert	06	01	1890	Application for licence extension	La	Mr Robert Wickenden applied for two licence extensions to host functions for specific organisations. Both extensions were granted.	1890/002
Justices		Various		09	01	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of petty sessions sitting of 9 January 1890. All cases mentioned are described in earlier entries, some in 1889.	1890/003
Knight	James	Ball	Frederick	13	01	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Knight charged Frederick Ball of Mill Lane with being drunk and disorderly in Queen Street and also in Mill Lane where he was shouting and cursing. Ball pleaded guilty to the charge. Knight noted Ball's previous convictions as 6 August 1883 when he was fined 5/- with costs of 5/6d for drunkenness, 10 September 1883 when he was fined 5/- plus costs of 7/- for being drunk and disorderly and 25 September 1889 when he was fined 10/- including costs for being drunk and disorderly. On this occasion Ball was fined 10/- with costs of 3/6d.	1890/004

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Thatcher	Frank Carter	Lane	Augustus	18	01	1890	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for Wells, complained that Augustus Lane had deserted his wife, Caroline, and their two children so that they were all now chargeable to the parish and had been in this state since mid-December. Thatcher requested that a warrant be issued for the arrest of Augustus Lane. Lane was arrested in Bournemouth in early February and brought back to Wells for a hearing. Lane pleaded not guilty and claimed that he had gone to get work at a shoeing forge but had fallen out with the forgemaster. Lane was found guilty and sentenced to 6 weeks in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. The costs of the case were shown as 10/-. Note: this was not the first occasion that Lane had left his wife and family (see case 1887/104a).	1890/005
Watts	Henry	Walker	Charles	01	02	1890	Begging in the street	V	PC Watts charged Charles Walker with begging in High Street. He saw Walker go into several shops including that of Walter Brooks. Watts stood behind him as he asked for 1d towards his lodgings but was refused. He then turned around and used extremely bad language. Watts arrested him and Walker then threw some copper coins in the street saying that the people who had given him the money could have it back again. Walker was found guilty of vagrancy and sentenced to spend 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. The costs of the case were shown as 6/6d.	1890/006
Holley	Frederick	Hanney	George	05	02	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Holley charged George Hanney of St Thomas Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street. Holley also called William Mansfield of St Thomas Street to give evidence for the prosecution. Hanney pleaded not guilty but he was found guilty and fined 15/- including costs which appeared to amount to 13/6d. Note: at the hearing the name of the prosecution witness is given as Henry Mansfield.	1890/007

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Holley	Frederick	Watts	Arthur	05	02	1889	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Holley charged Arthur Watts of Priest Row, carman, with being drunk and disorderly in Priest Row. PC Holley also called Frederick Neath of Queen Street and Edward Stevens of Silver Street, both butchers, to give evidence for the prosecution. Watts pleaded not guilty and called Fred Miller of Priest Row and George Cannon of St Thomas Street to give evidence for the defence. Holley stated that he had come across Watts in Priest Row where he was lying on the pavement with 3 other men around him. With the assistance of Holley they got Watts up and supported him to get to his home. In getting him up some money (around 8/8d) fell out of his wallet and was given to his mother. Holley claimed that when they had got Watts home Watts had become violent and used very bad language towards him. None of the witnesses claimed to have heard the bad language. Watts was found guilty and fined 5/- with costs of 19/6d; these sums were recorded as paid.	1890/008
Justices		Wickenden	Robert	08	02	1890	Licence extension application	La	Robert Wickenden applied for a licence extension of 1 hour to host the bellringers' supper. The application was granted for a fee of 1/6d.	1890/009
Justices		Various		13	02	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of petty sessions sitting of 13 February 1890. All cases mentioned are described in earlier entries.	1890/010

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Hansford	Edward	Watts Western	Arthur Aaron	13	02	1890	Drunk and disorderly Assault Resisting arrest	D A Op	PC Hansford saw Arthur Watts and Aaron Western staggering along the road at the bottom of Sadler Street. He tried to persuade them to go home quietly but they continued shouting and swearing loudly. Hansford did get both men to go to Priest Row and they both went into Watts' house, but then Watts came out again and assaulted PC Hansford striking him twice in the face. Western also came out again and jumped on top of Hansford and Watts who were struggling on the ground. Hansford was then assisted by James Horton, lamplighter, and Henry Vowles of Portway, farmer. Vowles was successful in stopping Western from throttling Hansford and allowing Hansford to get handcuffs on Watts. Watts and Western were both arrested but Western then tried to release Watts from custody. Watts and Western pleaded not guilty to all the charges against them but were found guilty on all counts. Watts was fined 10/- with costs of 2/6d for being drunk and disorderly, and 20/- plus costs of 6/- for the assault on PC Hansford. Western was fined 5/- including costs for drunkenness and 5/- plus costs of 6/- for resisting arrest. Note: a separate document shows different and higher levels of penalty, but it is not certain that these penalties were actually applied.	1890/011
Police		Samuels	Caroline	20	02	1890	Wilful damage	Wd	Caroline Samuels was charged with wilfully breaking a pane of glass in the property of Charles Hawkins in Southover. The value of the damage was put at 3/-. Caroline Samuels admitted the offence and was fined 5/- with costs of 6/6d.	1890/012
Hansford	Edward	Onion	George	22	02	1890	Drunkenness	D	PC Hansford charged George Onion of Portway, railway packer, with being drunk in High Street. Onion was fined 2/6d with costs of 8/-; these sums were recorded as paid.	1890/013

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Knight	James	Reeves	John	22	02	1890	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight charged John Reeves of Shepton Mallet, drover, with being drunk by the Palace Moat. Reeves had been lying in the road close to the wall with his two sheepdogs beside him. Knight had had to get some rope to tie up the dogs before getting Reeves to his feet. A passer by walking to Shepton Mallet agreed to look after Reeves and take him home. Reeves had his wife send a letter saying that he would be unable to attend the hearing because he would otherwise lose work that he had contracted to undertake. Reeves was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs of 9/-.	1890/014
Holley	Frederick	Pitts Hatcher	John Alfred	22	02	1890	Obscene language	Pr	PC Holley charged John Pitts and Alfred Hatcher, both of Southover and both described as labourers, with using profane and obscene language in Southover. Pitts and Hatcher pleaded not guilty. PC Holley stated that Pitts had been fighting another man called Trimm with Hatcher standing by and encouraging them. Trimm had been quiet, but Pitts and Hatcher were swearing profusely. Holley advised them all to go home but had to intervene on more than one occasion. Pitts and Hatcher were found guilty of the charge and each was required to pay a fine of 5/- and costs of 4/6d. Pitts was recorded as paying the sums that he owed.	1890/015
Langley	George	Uphill	Frank	24	02	1890	Refusing to work Assault	Rw A	George Langley, master of Wells Union, complained of the refractory behaviour of Frank Uphill, one of the pauper inmates. Uphill, who had been an inmate off and on for two years, refused to carry out his duties of sweeping out the bedrooms, a task which he had been carrying out for the last 2 months. He was put on bread and water for the day and when asked to carry out the work next morning refused again. Langley had warned Uphill that he would call the police in the event of his refusing to work, so PC Hansford arrived to take Uphill into custody. Uphill then tried to escape and it took Hansford, Langley and Charles Blizzard, porter, to subdue Uphill sufficiently to get handcuffs on him. In the violent struggle Uphill kicked Langley in the face and subsequently tried to bite PC Hansford. Uphill was found guilty on both charges and was sentenced to an unspecified number of days in prison with hard labour for refusing to work (possibly 7?) and 21 days in prison with hard labour on the charge of assault.	1890/016

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Knight	James	Yerbury	Walter	25	02	1890	Cruelty to a mare	C	Police serjeant Knight charged Walter Yerbury of Shepton Mallet, fishmonger, with cruelty to a mare by working the animal when it was clearly in an unfit state with significant sores on the shoulders. Knight was advised by a colleague in Shepton Mallet that Yerbury had been convicted of a similar offence earlier in the same month when he had been fined £3 with costs of 18/6d. Yerbury was also found guilty of this offence and was fined 5/- with costs of 8/-.	1890/017
Knight	James	Watts	Henry John	25	02	1890	Cruelty to a mare	C	Police serjeant Knight charged Henry John Watts of Shepton Mallet, fishmonger, with cruelty to a mare by working the animal when it was clearly in an unfit state with significant sores on the shoulders. Knight was advised by a colleague in Shepton Mallet that Watts had been convicted of drunkenness in 1887 with a fine of 2/6d plus costs and of game trespass in 1889 with a fine of 5/- plus costs. Watts was found guilty of animal cruelty and fined 10/- with costs of 10/-. These sums were recorded as paid.	1890/018
Hansford	Edward	Hobbs	Gilbert	01	03	1890	Obstructing the highway	O	PC Hansford charged Gilbert Hobbs of Street Farm, Street, farmer, with wilfully obstructing the highway in High Street by leaving an unattended horse and cart in the street. Hobbs pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 8/- including costs of 7/-.	1890/019
Police		Willcox	Joseph	04	03	1890	Vagrancy	V	Joseph Willcox was charged with trading as a pedlar without a licence. He admitted the offence and was discharged.	1890/020
Bisgood	John	Vile	George	04	03	1890	Weights & measures	Wm	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable and inspector of weights and measures, initiated the prosecution after police serjeant James Knight purchased a pint of gin from George Vile of St Thomas Street, innkeeper. When tested by the county analyst in Taunton, the product was 40 per cent below proof. Vile was then prosecuted under the Food and Drugs Act for selling products that were not to the specified quality. Vile pleaded not guilty to the charge. However, he was found guilty of the offence and was fined £1.1s.0d, including costs; the sum was recorded as paid..	1890/021

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Bisgood	John	Evans	Mary	04	03	1890	Weights & measures	Wm	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable and inspector of weights and measures, initiated the prosecution after police serjeant James Knight purchased a pint of brandy from Mary Evans of High Street, innkeeper of The City Arms. When tested by the county analyst in Taunton, the product was 28 per cent below proof. Mary Evans was then prosecuted under the Food and Drugs Act for selling products that were not to the specified quality. Mary Evans was found guilty of the offence and was fined a total of £1.1s.0d, including costs (see case against George Vile for details of fine - case 1890/021).	1890/022
Knight	James	Baker	Felix	05	03	1890	Drunkenness	D	PC Hansford encountered Felix Baker close to Tucker Street and saw immediately that he was drunk as he fell twice before reaching Chamberlain Street and then collapsed against a wall. An acquaintance tried to persuade Baker to go home but Baker got excited and irritable and threatened to report PC Hansford for saying that he was drunk. Police serjeant Knight arrived when they were close to the top of High Street and sought to get Baker to go home by supporting him by the arm. Baker proved to be incapable of standing upright and Knight locked him up in the cells. Baker was fined 5/- with costs of 4/6d.	1890/023
Police		Maule	Edward	08	03	1890	Begging in the street	V	Edward Maule was charged with begging in High Street. He admitted the offence and the case was dismissed.	1890/024
Justices		Wilton	John	08	03	1890	Licence transfer application	La	John Wilton requested a temporary transfer of the licence for The Foresters Arms to John Marchant Jones until 10 April 1890. The required fee of 1/6d was paid.	1890/025
Coles	George Frederick	Maine	Matthew	08	03	1890	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	George Frederick Coles, innkeeper of The King's Head Inn, complained that Matthew Maine of Priddy, labourer, had refused to quit this inn when requested to do so by the landlord's wife, Harriett. She had refused to serve him because he was drunk. At that point Maine cursed her and was prepared to fight before he was put out by the landlord. By refusing to leave when asked to do so, Maine had placed himself in breach of the licence for the premises. Maine was found guilty of the charge and fined 5/- with costs of 14/-. Note: it is possible that the surname of the defendant could be Waine.	1890/026

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Bisgood	John	Wittick	Samuel George	11	03	1890	Desertion from military	M	Samuel George Wittick, aged around 20, gave himself up to John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, and confirmed that he was a deserter from the 2nd battalion of the King's Royal Rifle Corps. Wittick was described as being around 5'4" in height with a fresh complexion, brown hair, blue eyes and a bracelet tattoo on his left wrist. He had joined the army on 11 March 1889 in London and deserted in Enniskillen on 2 November 1889. Police serjeant Knight found a description of Wittick in the Police Gazette that matched the person in custody. Wittick was remanded in custody until he could be dealt with in due process, a period not exceeding 8 days.	1890/027
Justices		Various		13	03	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 March 1890.	1890/028
Watts	Henry	Wilkins	James	19	03	1890	Begging in an inn	V	PC Watts found James Wilkins in the street with several people around him. Wilkins complained that he had been insulted by several people at The Angel Inn but when he and PC Watts went there a number of complaints were made about Wilkins begging and asking for money towards his night's lodgings. When he was refused, he had used a good deal of bad language. Wilkins claimed to have bought beer whilst at The Angel but was unable to identify who had served him. Watts brought a charge against Wilkins for begging but the case was dismissed.	1890/029

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Padfield	Elizabeth	Padfield	Edward	26	03	1890	Threatened assault	A	Elizabeth Padfield complained that her estranged husband, Edward Padfield, had been making threats against her life and she feared that she might suffer bodily injury at his hands. Elizabeth Padfield lived at Vicars' Hall with a servant and a lady's companion, Elizabeth Cox, together with the children from her marriage to Edward Padfield. The couple had separated in 1885 after a series of differences. Edward Padfield had access rights with respect to the children. He had recently come to the door and asked to see the children but was seen and heard railing and swearing in front of the 8-year old. He then said to his ex-wife that there would be murder done and that they would die together. Padfield had then gone away but returned within an hour or so meeting his ex-wife in the street and accompanying her to the door while repeating the threats that he had made earlier. He then appeared again at the back door and at the window, continuing his threats. Elizabeth Padfield and her lady's companion summoned the police and police serjeant Knight arrived. In his view Edward Padfield was drunk and he was taken into custody. Edward Padfield, now residing at 62 Lansdowne Terrace, Frome was found guilty of threatening behaviour and was required to put forward a bond of £50 of his own money plus an additional surety of a further £50 (provided by Henry Thomas Padfield of Frome, baker) and to keep the peace, particularly with respect to Elizabeth Padfield, for the next 12 months. In addition, Padfield was also required to pay the costs of the case of 13/-.	1890/030

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Sperring	John	Brooks	Joseph	05	04	1890	Assault	A	John Sperring of Yarley, dealer, complained that he had been assaulted by Joseph Brooks of Worth, butcher. Sperring called George Chapman of Worth, farmer, to provide evidence on his behalf, while John Cook of Henton, butcher, was summoned to give evidence on behalf of the defendant. Sperring asserted that he had been in The Mermaid Inn when Brooks came in and accused him of saying things about him. Brooks then hit him in the face and, as Sperring bent to pick up his hat, struck him several times with an ash stick. The consensus of the witnesses was that Brooks struck Sperring first and that Sperring had not mentioned Brooks by name but he had said something about never having burnt down a house. Brooks was found guilty of assault and fined 5/- with costs of 16/-.	1890/031
Justices		Various		10	04	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 10 April, primarily covering the case of Sperring v Brooks. Also included are: - reference to the appointment of overseers (of the poor) for the In Parish of St Cuthbert (Knight and Wickes) and The Liberty (Carter and Miller). - temporary transfer of the licence for The Crown to Jacob Martin for a fee of 1/6d (paid) - a transfer of the licence for The Foresters' Arms from Wilton to Jones for a fee of 30/- (paid).	1890/032
Brooks	Joseph	Oxley	Henry	10	04	1890	Assault	A	Joseph Brooks of Worth near Wookey, butcher, complained that he had been assaulted in The Mermaid Inn by Henry Oxley of Tucker Street, poulterer. Brooks summoned three witnesses to give evidence of his behalf: Joseph Russell of Henton, farmer; John Green of Sadler Street, poulterer; and Mrs Andrews, wife of Francis J Andrews, landlord of The Mermaid Inn. Brooks stated that he had just gone into The Mermaid with Joseph Russell when Oxley began to insult him. Brooks had taken no action and sat down in the corner. A few minutes later Oxley had walked over to him and struck him in the eye, knocking him senseless. The case against Oxley was proven and he was fined 5/- with costs of £1.1s.0d. Oxley was recorded as paying the sum of £1.6s.0d.	1890/033

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Bendall	William Newport	Various		14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	William Newport Bendall, acting on behalf of Wells Water Company, complained that various individuals had failed to pay the amounts due for water that had been supplied to them. The individuals involved and the amounts owing are detailed in subsequent entries.	1890/034
Bendall	William Newport	Connock	Frederick	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	Frederick Connock of New Street was recorded as owing 5/-.	1890/034a
Bendall	William Newport	Ball	Frederick	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	Frederick Ball of Mill Lane was recorded as owing 3/-. Ball was granted a fortnight within which to pay the debt.	1890/034b
Bendall	William Newport	Trimm	George	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	George Trimm of Mill Lane was recorded as owing 6/-. Trimm was ordered to pay the outstanding amount.	1890/034c
Bendall	William Newport	Allen	James	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	James Allen of Mill Lane was recorded as owing 3/-. Allen was required to pay the outstanding debt plus additional costs.	1890/034d
Bendall	William Newport	Morgan	Mary	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	Mary Morgan of Mill Lane was recorded as owing 3/-. Mary Morgan was given one week within which to pay.	1890/034e
Bendall	William Newport	Miller	John	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	John Miller of Priest Row was recorded as owing 5/-.	1890/034f
Bendall	William Newport	Bartlett	George	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street was recorded as owing 5/-. Bartlett was ordered to pay the outstanding debt plus costs within one month.	1890/034g
Bendall	William Newport	Webber	John Henry	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	John Henry Webber, formerly of Ethel Street but now of James Street, Weston-super-Mare, was recorded as owing 6/6d. Webber was ordered to pay all the additional costs on both this debt and the general district rate.	1890/034h
Bendall	William Newport	Scott	Mary Ann	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	Mary Ann Scott of Broad Street was recorded as owing 3/-.	1890/034i
Bendall	William Newport	Ackerman	Edward	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	Edward Ackerman of Priory Place was recorded as owing 5/-. The outstanding debt, including costs, was ordered to be paid within one week.	1890/034j
Bendall	William Newport	Vile	William	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	William Vile of Southover was recorded as owing 3/-.	1890/034k
Bendall	William Newport	Bale	Mrs	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	Mrs Bale of Wellington was recorded as owing 3/- for a property in Southover. The debt was to be paid - plus costs within two weeks.	1890/034l
Bendall	William Newport	Hopkins	Robert	14	04	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	Robert Hopkins of Southover was recorded as owing 15/-. Hopkins was order to pay the outstanding debt plus costs within one month.	1890/034m

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Bendall	William Newport	Various		14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Newport Bendall, collector for the city of Wells, stated that various individuals had not yet paid the general district rate set on 29 October 1889. In addition to the amount of rates outstanding each individual also incurred a further 2/6d in costs. The individuals involved and the amounts now to be paid are recorded in the subsequent entries.	1890/035
Bendall	William Newport	Burridge	Charles	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Charles Burridge of Union Street was recorded as owing 4/6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 7/-. Bendall had seen Burridge's wife who had promised to pay but had not done so. At the hearing Burridge did not appear and was granted one week within which to pay the debt of 4/6d for the district rate and the additional sum of 6/6d for costs.	1890/035a
Bendall	William Newport	Lucas	Mrs	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Mrs Lucas of Union Street was recorded as owing 2/- for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 4/6d. She was given 14 days within which to pay the debt.	1890/035b
Bendall	William Newport	Voysey	Mrs	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Mrs Voysey of Union Street was recorded as owing 5/3d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 7/9d. The outstanding debt was recorded as being paid.	1890/035c
Bendall	William Newport	Connock	Frederick	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Frederick Connock of New Street was recorded as owing 8/3d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 10/9d. The outstanding debt was recorded as paid.	1890/035d
Bendall	William Newport	Woodburn	Frederick	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Frederick Woodburn of High Street was recorded as owing £1.0s.7d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of £1.3s.1d. Woodburn was noted as having paid the full amount of the debt.	1890/035e
Bendall	William Newport	Hemmens	William	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Hemmens of High Street was recorded as owing 6/- for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 8/6d.	1890/035f
Bendall	William Newport	Ball	Frederick	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Frederick Ball of Mill Lane was recorded as owing 4/6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 7/-. Ball was required to pay the outstanding sum for the general district rate but was not asked to pay the costs of 2/6d. At the hearing on 18 April Ball did not appear and was ordered to pay the sum of 4/6d for the district rate forthwith.	1890/035g

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Bendall	William Newport	Brooks	Walt	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Walt Brooks of Broad Street was recorded as owing £1.5s.6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of £1.8s.0d. Brooks was noted as having paid the outstanding debt in full.	1890/035h
Bendall	William Newport	Fox	George	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George Fox of Newtown was recorded as owing 5/3d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 7/9d. Fox paid the outstanding debt for the general district rate but was spared the payment of the costs.	1890/035i
Bendall	William Newport	White	Thomas	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George White of Tucker Street was recorded as owing 4/10d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 7/4d. The full outstanding debt was shown as paid.	1890/035j
Bendall	William Newport	Perry	James	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	James Perry of Tucker Street was recorded as owing 4/10d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 7/4d. Perry was granted one month within which to pay the debt.	1890/035k
Bendall	William Newport	Teal	Albert	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Albert Teal of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 12/- for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 14/6d. Teal was granted 3 weeks within which to pay the full outstanding debt.	1890/035l
Bendall	William Newport	Standard	Thomas	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Thomas Standard of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 10/6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 13/-. At the hearing on 18 April Standard did not appear and he was ordered to pay the outstanding debt forthwith, now comprising 10/6d for the district rate and 6/6d for costs.	1890/035m
Bendall	William Newport	Wickham	Charles	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Charles Wickham of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 6/9d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 9/3d. Wickham was granted a fortnight within which to pay the district rate but longer for the costs.	1890/035n
Bendall	William Newport	Vile	George	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George Vile of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing £1.2s.6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of £1.5s.0d. The total outstanding debt was noted as paid.	1890/035o
Bendall	William Newport	Davis	George	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George Davis of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 5/7d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 8/1d. The total outstanding debt was noted as paid.	1890/035p
Bendall	William Newport	Price	Will Hennis	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Will Hennis Price of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 9/9d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 12/3d. The total outstanding debt was noted as paid.	1890/035q

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bendall	William Newport	Bartlett	George	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street was recorded as owing 12/9d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 15/3d. Bartlett was granted one month within which to pay the outstanding debt.	1890/035r
Bendall	William Newport	Oxley	Henry	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Henry Oxley of Tucker Street was recorded as owing 9/7d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 12/1d. The full amount of the outstanding debt was noted as paid.	1890/035s
Bendall	William Newport	Webber	John Henry	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	John Henry Webber, formerly of Ethel Street but now of St James Street, Weston-super-Mare, was recorded as owing 13/6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 16/-.	1890/035t
Bendall	William Newport	Salvidge	William	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Salvidge of St Cuthbert Street was recorded as owing 14/3d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 16/9d. Salvidge was granted until Monday to pay, otherwise additional costs would be charged.	1890/035u
Bendall	William Newport	Hopkins	Robert	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Robert Hopkins of Southover was recorded as owing 9/9d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 12/3d. Hopkins was granted one month within which to discharge the outstanding debt.	1890/035v
Bendall	William Newport	Evans	George	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George Evans of Southover was recorded as owing 16/6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 19/- . Evans was granted one month within which to pay off the outstanding balance (this appears to imply that he may have already paid off some of the debt).	1890/035w
Bendall	William Newport	Tucker	William	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Tucker of Southover was recorded as owing 14/3d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 16/9d. At the hearing on 18 April Tucker did not appear and was ordered to pay the outstanding debt forthwith, now comprising 14/3d for the district rate and 6/6d for costs.	1890/035x
Bendall	William Newport	Adams	Charles	14	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Charles Adams of Victoria Terrace was recorded as owing 6/ for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 8/6d. Adams was granted one week to pay the outstanding amount for the district rate in which case the costs would be waived.	1890/035y
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		15	04	1890	Non payment of poor rate	N	Edward Athelstane Serel, collector of the poor rate, complained that certain individuals had not paid the poor rate as required and, moreover, were in arrears for previous poor rate assessments. The individuals concerned and the amounts involved are shown in the subsequent entries.	1890/036

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Brooks	Walt	15	04	1890	Non payment of poor rate	N	Walt Brooks of Broad Street was recorded as owing 19/10d from the poor rate assessment of May 1889 and a further £2.11s.0d from earlier poor rate assessments. Together with costs of 2/6d , Brooks was shown as owing a total of £3.13s.4d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant.	1890/036a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Oxley	Henry	15	04	1890	Non payment of poor rate	N	Henry Oxley of Tucker Street was recorded as owing 12/6d from the poor rate assessment of May 1889 and a further 19/9d from earlier poor rate assessments. Henry Oxley was noted as having paid the outstanding debt of £1.12s.3d plus costs of 2/6d.	1890/036b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bedford	Walter	15	04	1890	Non payment of poor rate	N	Walter Bedford of Priest Row was recorded as owing 4/8d from the poor rate assessment of May 1889 and a further 12/- from earlier poor rate assessments. Together with costs of 2/6d, Bedford was noted as owing a total of 19/2d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant.	1890/036c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Teal	Albert (Edward)	15	04	1890	Non payment of poor rate	N	Albert Teal of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 9/4d from the poor rate assessment of May 1889 and a further 6/- from earlier poor rate assessments. Teal was granted 3 weeks within which to pay the outstanding sum of 15/4d plus costs of 2/6d. If payment was not effected, a distress warrant was to be issued. Note: the forename is shown as Edward in the initial documentation, but the minutes of the hearing show it corrected to Albert.	1890/036d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that certain parents had failed to send their child to school on a sufficiently frequent basis. The individuals affected are detailed on the succeeding entries.	1890/037
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	James	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Allen of Mill Lane was charged with failing to ensure that Thomas Stokes attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the last 3 months Thomas Stokes had made only 2 attendances when the school was open for 124 attendances. The justices issued an attendance order for Thomas Stokes to attend the certified efficient school in St John Street.	1890/037a

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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burridge	Charles	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Charles Burridge of Union Street was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Frederick, attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the most recent period Frederick had made only 26 attendances when the school was open for 93 attendances. Charles Burridge was fined 2/6d.	1890/037b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burridge	Charles	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Charles Burridge of Union Street was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Emily, attended school sufficiently often. A E Cooke, principal teacher at the Central Infants School, reported that in the most recent period Emily had made no attendances when the school was open for 114 attendances. Charles Burridge was fined 2/6d.	1890/037c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Coles	Walter	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Walter Coles of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Elizabeth, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Elizabeth, aged 10, had made only 51 attendances when the school was open for 84 attendances. Elizabeth Coles was noted as having passed standard III. Walter Coles was fined 2/6d.	1890/037d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	House	George	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George House of South Street was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Emma, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Emma, aged 12, had made no attendances when the school was open for 123 attendances. Emma House was noted as having passed standard IV. George House was fined 2/6d and given a fortnight within which to pay.	1890/037e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Marsh	Silas	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Herbert, attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the most recent period Herbert had made only 17 attendances when the school was open for 40 attendances. Herbert Marsh was recorded as having passed standard III. The case was adjourned to see if attendance improved and at the hearing of 8 May the case was dismissed.	1890/037f

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Perry of Tucker Street was charged with failing to ensure that his son, James, attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the most recent period Herbert had made only 38 attendances when the school was open for 84 attendances, but only one of those attendances had been in the last month out of a possible 28. James Perry (the younger) was recorded as having passed standard II. James Perry (the elder) was fined 2/6d.	1890/037g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Shears	John	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John Shears of St Cuthbert Street was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Herbert, attended school sufficiently often. Louise Charlotte Stones, principal teacher at the Wells Roman Catholic School, reported that in the most recent period Herbert, aged 9, had made only 23 attendances when the school was open for 80 attendances. Herbert Shears was recorded as not having passed any standard. John Shears' wife attended the hearing and the case was adjourned pending the provision of a medical certificate.	1890/037h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Shears	John	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John Shears of St Cuthbert Street was charged with failing to ensure that his son, William, attended school sufficiently often. Louise Charlotte Stones, principal teacher at the Wells Roman Catholic School, reported that in the most recent period William, aged 6, had made only 6 attendances when the school was open for 80 attendances. William Shears was recorded as not having passed any standard. John Shears' wife attended the hearing and the case was adjourned pending the provision of a medical certificate.	1890/037i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his son, John, attended school sufficiently often. There is no further information about the school attended or the child's attendance or performance record. Nor is there an indication of the outcome of the case (although the summons is duplicated).	1890/037j
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	15	04	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Henry, attended school sufficiently often. There is no further information about the school attended or the child's attendance or performance record. Nor is there an indication of the outcome of the case (although the summons is duplicated).	1890/037k

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		18	04	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 18 April. The session covered the case of Brooks v Oxley as well as the various cases of non-payment of water rent, general district rate and poor rate.	1890/038
Bendall	William Newport	Bartlett	George	18	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	An order was issued for George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street to pay within one month the outstanding debt of 19/3d for the general district rate made up of 12/9d for the rate itself and 6/6d in costs. Bartlett paid 7/6d on 11 September 1890; a distress warrant was then issued adding 1/6d to the outstanding debt; Bartlett then paid the remaining debt of 13/3d on 26 November 1890.	1890/039
Bendall	William Newport	Hopkins	Robert	18	04	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	An order was issued for Robert Hopkins of Southover to pay within one month the outstanding debt of 16/3d for the general district rate made up of 9/9d for the rate itself and 6/6d in costs. Hopkins paid 12/6d on 10 September 1890; a distress warrant was then issued on 15 September 1890 for the remaining debt, now increased by 1/6d as a result of the warrant; Hopkins then paid off the balance of the debt of 5/3d on 28 November 1890.	1890/040
Hansford	Edward	Burlton	Joseph	22	04	1890	Obstructing the highway	O	PC Hansford charged Joseph Burlton of West Horrington, lime burner, with wilfully obstructing the thoroughfare in St Thomas Street. Burlton admitted the offence and was fined 10/-, including costs of 8/-. Burlton was noted as having paid the sum of 10/-.	1890/041
Knight	James	Ridewood	George	24	04	1890	Keeping a dog without a licence	DI	Police serjeant Knight charged George Ridewood of Godney in the parish of Meare, labourer, with keeping an unlicensed dog. Knight summoned Charles Harvey of East Horrington to give evidence for the prosecution, since the dog had been under Harvey's control when Knight stopped him in St Andrew Street. Harvey had stated that the dog, a lurcher, belonged to Ridewood who had asked him to keep it for a few weeks while he was away. Ridewood was found guilty of the offence and fined 10/- with costs of 15/6d. Note: the minutes of the petty sessions sitting show the name of the witness as Edward Harvey - but this may not be correct as the next case related to Edward Wilson.	1890/042

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Ball	James	24	04	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Knight charged James Ball of Market Place, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in the Market Place. Ball pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d with costs of 8/-. However, the costs increased to 12/2d as a consequence of Ball's commitment to prison in Shepton Mallet for 14 days with hard labour because of his failure to pay.	1890/043
Holley	Frederick	Wilson	Edward	24	04	1890	Furious driving	Rd	PC Holley charged Edward Wilson, an attendant at the Somerset and Bath Lunatic Asylum, with furious driving of a horse and carriage in St Andrew Street. Wilson pleaded guilty to the offence and was required to pay the sum of £1, including costs of 8/-.	1890/044
Hansford	Edward	Range	George	24	04	1890	Keeping a dog without a licence	DI	PC Hansford charged George Range of No 39 Chamberlain Street, gardener, with keeping a dog without a licence. Range was found guilty of the offence and fined 10/- with costs of 8/-.	1890/045
Hansford	Edward	Hawkins	Charles	28	04	1890	Profane and obscene language	Pr	PC Hansford charged Charles Hawkins of Morgan's Court, St Thomas Street, labourer, with using profane and obscene language in St Thomas Street. Hawkins was found guilty and required to pay a fine of 10/- including costs of 8/-. Hawkins paid 5/- and was given until the end of the week to pay the balance.	1890/046
Hansford	Edward	Hawkins	Frederick	28	04	1890	Affray	Af	PC Hansford charged Frederick Hawkins of Morgan's Court, St Thomas Street with causing an affray in St Thomas Street. Hawkins pleaded guilty to the charge and was required to pay the costs of 5/6d; this sum was recorded as being paid.	1890/047
Bendall	William Newport	Hatcher	Alfred	01	05	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	William Newport Bendall, water rate collector, complained that Alfred Hatcher of South Street, labourer, had not paid the outstanding debt on water rent of 12/6d that he was ordered to pay in the petty sessions judgement of 10 October 1889. The debt had been increased by 1/6d as the result of the issue of a distress warrant but this had not yielded any money to pay down the debt. This new summons added a further 1/6d to the debt which now stood at 15/6d. If the debt was not paid by Saturday an order committing Hatcher to prison was to be issued.	1890/047a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bendall	William Newport	Bartlett	George	01	05	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	At the petty sessions sitting of 10 October 1889 William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street, mason, for the sum of 17/- in unpaid water rent. As a result of a distress warrant issued against Bartlett the debt increased to 18/6d, but no money was realised to pay down the debt. Bartlett had since paid 10/- and the debt had reduced to 8/6d, but as a result of this summons the amount outstanding had gone back up to 10/-. Bartlett was to be allowed until Monday to clear the debt, otherwise an order committing him to prison was to be issued.	1890/048
Bendall	William Newport	Ball	Frederick	01	05	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	At the petty sessions sitting of 10 October 1889 William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against Frederick Ball of Mill Lane for the sum of 7/6d in unpaid water rent. As a result of a distress warrant issued against Ball the debt increased to 9/-, but no money was realised to pay down the debt. The cost of the current summons was 1/6d, increasing the amount outstanding to 10/6d. Ball was given 3 weeks within which to clear the debt in full.	1890/049
Police		Parker	Ernest	02	05	1890	Attempted suicide	Sc	Ernest Parker aged 18, son of George Parker of Priest Row, was charged with taking a quantity of poison called Battle's Vermin Killer in an attempt to commit suicide. Ernest Parker was committed for trial at the next quarter sessions in Taunton in July. He and his father were both required to put forward sureties of £10 to ensure their attendance while witnesses had to put forward sureties of £5 each. Note: information about the commitment for trial is noted in the case of William Tucker's non-payment of the general district rate (see case 1890/056).	1890/050
Hucker	Louisa	Hucker	Thomas	03	05	1890	Theft of shawls	T	Louisa Hucker of South Street, widow, complained that Thomas Hucker also of South Street had stolen 2 shawls belonging to her. Thomas Hucker was found guilty and sentenced to one calendar month in jail - but without labour. Note: details of the sentence are shown in the documents relating to the case of Ellen Welch (see case 1890/052).	1890/051
Police		Welch	Ellen	05	05	1890	Drunkenness	D	Ellen Welch was charged with being drunk in a public place. She was found guilty and fined 2/6d with costs of 3/6d. She paid 1/- and was allowed until Saturday to pay the remainder.	1890/052

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Bisgood	John	Martin	Jacob	05	05	1890	Opening licensed premises outside permitted hours	L	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, charged Jacob Martin, licensee of The Crown Inn, with having his premises open for the sale of intoxicating liquor at a time when the law required them to be closed. Martin admitted the offence and was fined 10/- with costs of 8/-; these sums were noted as being paid.	1890/053
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	06	05	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his daughters, Matilda and Mary Ann attended school sufficiently often. In fact, neither of the girls was attending any school. White was fined 2/6d for each of the two girls.	1890/054
Justices		Various		08	05	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 May. The cases discussed are all dealt with individually in earlier entries.	1890/055
Bendall	William Newport	Tucker	William	08	05	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	At the petty sessions sitting of 18 April 1890 William Newport Bendall, rate collector, won a judgement against William Tucker of Southover, butcher, for the sum of £1.0s.9d for unpaid general district rates. Distress proceedings were initiated at an additional cost of 1/6d but did not realise any money to pay down the debt. This new summons added a further 2/- to the debt bringing to £1.4s.3d. The word 'settled' appears on the front cover of this document, suggesting that the debt had been cleared, but a further document of the same date (enclosed) shows the word 'committed', implying that Tucker may have gone to prison.	1890/056
Tucker	Jane	Brooks	Joseph	13	05	1890	Assault	A	Jane Tucker of Southover brought a complaint of assault against Joseph Brooks of Worth near Wookey, butcher. An undated note from Mrs Tucker to the clerk of justices requests that the case be withdrawn because she is not well enough to attend the hearing. The note also requests that the answer be given to the child in writing since she cannot hear what might be spoken. This seems to imply that Mrs Tucker is not Jane Tucker and that Jane Tucker is both young and deaf. Note: a note on the cover of the documentation indicates that the case was to be adjourned until the next sitting of the petty sessions court.	1890/057
Police		Coombs	?	24	05	1890	Suspected of possessing stolen goods	Sc	Coombs (forename not given) was charged on suspicion that he had a watch in his possession (presumed to be stolen). Coombs was discharged; no further information was given.	1890/057a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Durbin	Mary Ann	26	05	1890	Drunkenness Theft of a knife	D T	Police serjeant James Knight charged Mary Ann Durbin with being drunk in College Road on 24 May. Francis Jacob Cole of The Cedars, gardener, had been outside at around 10.30pm and had heard a noise outside the wall. He had gone out to investigate and had found Mary Ann Durbin lying senseless in the road. He had dragged her to the side of the road, but then sought help from a man called Pearce. Together with a student they tried to revive her and also called the police. She was so drunk that they were unable to bring her to consciousness, so she was carried to the police station on a stretcher. In the cells she lay for some time on the floor before she came to; it was noted that her face was bruised and she had a black eye, as well as being sick and stinking of drink. Mary Ann Durbin was fined 2/6d plus costs of 7/6d, including the expense of cleaning up. The sum of 10/- was recorded as paid. Mary Ann Durbin was also charged with the theft of a knife valued at 1/-, the property of John Hawkes. No evidence was recorded in the documentation with respect to this charge, but she was found guilty and sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1890/057b
Bisgood	John	Ball	Henry	27	05	1890	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Ball of St Thomas Street with being drunk in the Cathedral on 19 May. Ball pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 2/- plus costs of 8/-.	1890/057c
Bisgood	John	Langley	Simeon	27	05	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Simeon Langley of St Thomas Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in Union Street on 17 May. Langley was said to be staggering about and cursing and swearing at those passing by. Langley was found guilty and fined 5/- plus costs of 8/-. The sum of 13/- was recorded as paid.	1890/057d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Damerel	Samuel	Lovell Cribb Marsh Parker	Herbert George John Frank	31	05	1890	Breach of bye-laws by using foul and indecent language	Br	Samuel Damerel, caretaker at Wells Recreation Ground, complained that several young lads had infringed the bye-laws applicable to the Recreation Ground by using foul and indecent language on 25 May. The individuals concerned were: - Herbert Lovell of Broad Street - George Cribb of Town Hall Buildings - John Marsh of Town Hall Buildings and - Frank Parker of Priest Row. All pleaded not guilty. Damerel had cautioned the lads about their language, but received abusive responses from Cribb and Parker, in particular, while he could not be certain in the case of Marsh. The case against Marsh was dismissed but each of other defendants was required to pay 3/6d to cover the case costs of 10/6d. They were given one week within which to pay. Payment from Cribb was recorded as received.	1890/057e
Bisgood	John	Bennett	William	02	06	1890	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Bennett of St John Street, haulier, with wilfully obstructing the highway in Silver Street on 22 May. PC Hansford reported that he had seen 3 carts parked in Silver Street at 9.00pm and all of them were still there at 6.00am the next morning. He established that all 3 carts belonged to William Bennett. Bennett was fined 10/- including costs of 9/-.	1890/057f
Bisgood	John	Bennett	James	02	06	1890	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Bennett of South Street, haulier, with wilfully obstructing the highway in Silver Street on 22 May. PC Hansford reported that he had seen 2 carts parked in Silver Street at the same times he had seen those belonging to William Bennett (see case 1890/057f). He established from Bennett's son that both carts belonged to James Bennett. Bennett was fined 10/- including costs of 9/-.	1890/057g

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Phipps	Thomas	02	06	1890	Cruelty to a donkey	C	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Phipps of South Street, labourer, with cruelty to a donkey on 24 May by violently beating the animal. Phipps wrote to the justices to explain his actions saying that he became too confused to say anything when he was brought before them. He asserted that he was trying to avoid a collision with another donkey and as his own animal was notoriously obstinate he had had to use some force to get it to move and it was certainly not his intention to cause any hurt to the animal since it was essential to his earning a living. He asked for leniency and was fined 5/- including costs (although the costs were recorded as being 8/-). Phipps was also given 3 weeks within which to pay.	1890/057h
Collins	Samuel Henry	Francis	John	02	06	1890	Fraudulent declaration to Inland revenue	Fr	Samuel Henry Collins of No 8 Ethel Street, an officer of the Inland Revenue, complained that John Francis of South Street had made a false declaration to Joseph Farley Spry, an officer of the Inland Revenue. Francis had claimed that he owned a dog for the purpose of herding sheep and cattle. However, Collins stated that it was a fact that Francis was not a farmer and therefore the dog was not being kept for the stated purpose. Collins claimed that Francis was therefore subject to a fine of £20. Francis admitted filing a false return and was fined £1 with costs of 15/-.	1890/058
Watts	Henry	Baker	James	03	06	1890	Begging	V	PC Watts charged James Baker with begging money from theological students in Wells in order to provide him with funds to travel to London. Baker pleaded not guilty to the charge but evidence of Baker's begging was provided by two students. One had given him 3/-, but Baker was back the following day asking for more and the other had given him 10/- and some old clothes. Baker was found guilty and sentenced to one month in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1890/058a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Sheldon	Alfred	Hammond	Thomas	03	06	1894	Obtaining money on false pretences	Fr	<p>Alfred Sheldon of West Street, engineer, complained that Thomas Hammond had taken 2/6d from him on false pretences. Hammond had come to his firm and asked to be taken on as a millwright. Sheldon had agreed to give him employment subject to suitable character references. Hammond asked if Sheldon could provide him with a pair of boots; Sheldon did so and also gave him 1/- on the understanding that Hammond would return on the following Monday. In fact, Hammond turned up again the following day and asked for more money with Sheldon then giving him 1/6d. Sheldon received a response from one of Hammond's supposed previous employers which stated that they had never employed anyone of that name. Hammond was found guilty of obtaining money on false pretences and sentenced to one month in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.</p> <p>Note: the surname of the defendant shown in the minutes of the hearing of his case is 'Harmer'.</p> <p>Note: Sheldon's statement talks of Hammond quoting a reference from a Mr Wicks in Maidstone and refers to his correspondence with Wicks being included in the documentation. In fact, the documentation only includes copies of letters to and from Paine's of Strood with no mention of anyone called Wicks.</p>	1890/058b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Bisgrove	John	Watts	Henry John	07	06	1890	Selling diseased animals	Lm	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry John Watts of Shepton Mallet, livestock dealer, with knowingly exposing for sale 17 pigs which were diseased or suspected of being diseased at Wells market on 24 May. A number of witnesses were summoned by the prosecution, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Robert Young of Clutton - James Dowman of Clutton - Thomas W Whitney of Shepton Mallet, veterinary surgeon - G Wilfred Haydon of Midsomer Norton, veterinary surgeon - John Reid of High Street, veterinary surgeon - John Sweet of Woodford in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert - William Newport Bendall of Eastfield, toll collector - Tom Manuel of Croscombe, shopkeeper, and - Gilbert Card of Draycott. <p>Testimony was also obtained from Henry Eno, police serjeant William Perry, and William Kingston and Henry James who were employed by Watts to look after his pigs. Detailed testimony is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 June (see case 1890/058i). Watts initially sold 6 pigs to Thomas Manuel on 17 May and some died very soon. Watts was advised of what had happened</p>	1890/058c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
									<p>but refused to compensate Manuel and did not take advice not to take further pigs to market. On 24 May at Wells market Watts sold 17 pigs to John Sweet, pig dealer, and advised him to sell them on quickly. Sweet sold on 12 to Gilbert Card who, in turn, moved them on to Robert Young who then sold them to James Dowman where a number of them soon succumbed to swine fever. Three vets who performed post mortems on the dead pigs and examined those still living all agreed that the animals were suffering from swine fever; any animals still alive needed to be put down. As swine fever was a notifiable disease, Watts was found guilty of not taking appropriate action and was fined £10 including costs.</p> <p>In addition to the witnesses summoned a summons was also prepared for Henry Gould of Shepton Mallet, drover, but never issued.</p> <p>The documentation also contains a letter which is undated, unsigned and not addressed, warning the unnamed recipient to expect a visit from the police with respect to the pigs that he had recently been sold.</p>	
Culliford	Samuel	Harte	Edward	09	06	1890	Assault	A	<p>Samuel Culliford of Priddy, haulier, complained that on 9 June he had been assaulted by Edward Harte of Wells, gentleman. Culliford had gone into a shop in High Street and encountered Harte who had allegedly accused him of being a Jew and of having 'Jewd' him out of a pound. When Culliford had responded by calling Harte a liar, Harte had supposedly struck him in the mouth with his fist. Culliford mentioned that there had been a disagreement between his son and Harte over dilapidations to his land as a result of the hunt riding over his ground. Culliford claimed there was no provocation for Harte to act as he did. Culliford had not summoned any witnesses to support his accusation and the justices dismissed the case.</p>	1890/058d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Ball	Frederick	10	06	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Ball of Mill Lane, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in the Market Place on 7 June. Jacob Martin, innkeeper of The Crown Inn, was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution as he had requested the police to remove Ball from his premises because he was drunk and using disgraceful language. Ball was found guilty and fined 15/- including costs (and these were recorded as being 15/-).	1890/058e
Reakes	Henry William	Herring	Robert	10	06	1890	Assault	A	Henry William Reakes of Wells, hardware factor, complained that he had been assaulted by Robert Herring of High Street, china merchant. Reakes called Thomas William Walker, innkeeper at The Sun Inn, to give evidence on his behalf. Reakes stated that he had been coming down Guardhouse Lane towards High Street in his horse and cart and found Herring and his son walking in front of him with a mowing machine proceeding ahead of them. He shouted for them to move out of the way but they ignored him. Reakes then got down from the cart to remonstrate with them calling Herring a scamp and a villain. This prompted Herring to strike him under the chin with his fist. In the countersuit (see case 1890/058g) Herring claimed that he and his son could walk no faster because of the mowing machine ahead of them and Reakes would not have been able to get past it. He also asserted that Reakes was making threatening gestures with his whip when he got down from the cart. He confirmed that Reakes had insulted him and stated that he had only hit Reakes lightly under the chin with the back of his hand. Both cases were dismissed by the justices. Detailed testimony is given in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 June (see case 1890/058i).	1890/058f
Herring	Robert	Reakes	Henry William	10	06	1890	Assault	A	Robert Herring of High Street complained that he had been assaulted by Henry William Reakes of the Market Place (see case 1890/058f for the details of the case to which this is a countersuit and the eventual outcome for both cases). Detailed testimony is also contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 June.	1890/058g

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Brooks	Walt	10	06	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	In April 1890 Edward Athelstane Serel was pursuing Walt Brooks of The Angel Inn for arrears of payment with respect to the poor rate (see case 1890/036a). An undated letter is included in the files (and placed here simply because of its position in the petty sessions files) from Walt Brooks enclosing a payment of £2.6s.8d and asking Serel not to cash the payment until Friday. Note: the amount of the payment does not seem to accord with any of the sums shown in case 1890/036a, but there may have been other (unrecorded) payments in the interim and/or there may still be a balance of debt outstanding. Note: there is also a brief note in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 June indicating that a distress warrant issued against Brooks had found no evidence of goods that could be sold to reduce an outstanding debt.	1890/058h
Justices		Various		12	06	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 June. There are detailed notes of the testimony given in the case of Henry John Watts (see 1890/058c) and in the cases of Reakes versus Herring and Herring versus Reakes (see cases 1890/058f and 1890/058g). All the other cases heard are recorded in earlier entries, although there is one note indicating that William James was discharged 'for want of prosecution'; there is no further documentation to indicate what potential offence may have been involved.	1890/058i
Masters	Thomas James	Thompson	G S	13	06	1890	Assault	A	Thomas James Masters of Wookey Hole complained that he had been assaulted in Wells by G S Thompson, knife grinder. Masters was a coacher for William Hodgkinson and had been driving down High Street when he saw a dog directly in front of him. The dog then moved and was almost under his wheels, so Masters used his whip to strike the dog and get it away from the wheels of the carriage. At this point Thompson came out of a nearby shop and struck Masters several times in the ribs and face because he claimed that Masters had struck his dog unnecessarily. Thompson was found guilty of assault and fined 5/- with costs of 10/-; in the case of default Thompson would serve 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. It appears that Thompson did not pay the fine and costs due, since additional costs were recorded for the commitment to prison.	1890/059

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Baker	Joseph	14	06	1890	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, charged Joseph Baker of West Horrington, labourer, with being drunk on Cathedral Green. Baker had been found asleep on Cathedral Green by PC Edward Hansford who determined that Baker was very drunk and incapable of getting home without assistance. Baker was fined 1/- with costs of 9/-.	1890/060
Horton	James	Brinson	Mary	30	06	1890	Assault	A	James Horton of St Thomas Street, lamplighter, complained that he had been assaulted by Mary Brinson of The Royal Oak. He called upon William Brownjohn of St Thomas Street to provide evidence in support of his case. Mary Brinson pleaded not guilty as did James Horton in the counter-case. The dispute between the two appeared to involve Mary Brinson going into a garden area in St Thomas Street in an attempt to take back her bees. She was seen spitting on them and blowing on them in the hive. Horton had intervened and asked her what she was doing. He claimed that she had then struck him in the face and subsequently had thrown a half-brick at him, using disgusting language. She claimed that he had started the dispute by pushing her and then striking her in the face with an open hand. She then claimed that he had pushed her down the steps out of the garden causing her to fall and strike her head against the wall. Witnesses on both sides gave statements that contradicted each other and supported the testimony of one protagonist or the other. It appears that the costs of this case were put at 15/- and the other at 10/-; the decision of the justices was that each of the litigants should pay half of the costs, i.e.12/6d each.	1890/061
Brinson	Mary Jane	Horton	James	30	06	1890	Assault	A	Mary Jane Brinson, wife of Joseph Brinson, innkeeper of The Royal Oak, complained that she had been assaulted by James Horton of St Thomas Street, lamplighter. She called upon Henry Lucas of Union Street, labourer, to give evidence in support of her case. James Horton pleaded not guilty as did Mary Brinson in the counter-case. For details of the case and the outcome, see the counter-case (case 1890/061) and the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 3 July.	1890/062
Watts	Henry	Johnson	William	01	07	1890	Unlicensed pedlar	V	PC Watts accused William Johnson of trading without being licensed as a pedlar. Johnson pleaded guilty and was discharged.	1890/063

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Justices		Various		03	07	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 3 July. Most of the detailed minutes relate to the cases involving James Horton and Mary Brinson with extensive and conflicting testimonies from both sides of the dispute.	1890/064
Knight	James	Dingle	Charles	10	07	1890	Theft of live fowl	T	George Ashton of Portway complained that many of his fowls - which he kept in two separate locations, one behind his house and one in Mr Reeves' yard by Lovers' Walk - had gone missing over recent weeks. He stated that he had lost 15 full-grown fowl, 19 chickens and 6 turkeys. Police serjeant Knight reported that, on the basis of information received, he had visited the premises of Charles Dingle and found a group of chickens in one pen and a single, and very different, chicken in a separate pen of its own. This latter chicken was identified as being likely to be one of George Ashton's birds. Dingle claimed that he had found the bird on the road near the baths, although, in such a case he ought to have notified the police. Dingle was remanded in custody over the weekend and was subsequently found guilty of the theft of the individual fowl valued at 1/-. Dingle was fined £1 and allowed 14 days within which to pay; this sum was noted as being paid.	1890/065

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Police		Francis	Robert	21	07	1890	Theft of stockings	T	Robert Francis was charged with the theft of 3 pairs of stockings with a value of 9d from Henry Painter of Broad Street, Frome, a travelling salesman. Painter had been trading near the Conduit at around 9.00pm on a Saturday evening selling stockings and laces and other goods. He noticed that several pairs of stockings were missing and also found Francis standing immediately behind him. Francis' actions had been observed by Herbert Marsh, 12-year old son of Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings. Marsh had seen Francis deliberately drop his handkerchief on top of a box which contained a variety of items including stockings. Francis waited a short time, picked up the handkerchief together with the stockings and hid them under his jacket. Herbert Marsh then informed a policeman of what he had seen. Francis was arrested and the goods found on him. Painter claimed that the stockings were part of his stock. In view of Francis' history of convictions for various offences (listed in the documentation) which had led to multiple and lengthy prison terms it was decided that he should stand trial at the next quarter sessions in Taunton in October 1890. All prosecution witnesses were bound over in the sum of £10 each to attend the trial: Henry Painter; Herbert Marsh; George Cribb of Town Hall Buildings; John Marsh of High Street, butcher; PC Henry Luke; PC Henry Watts.	1890/066
Guardians of Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	23	07	1890	Absconding from Wells Union	Ab	George Langley, master of Wells Union, complained that Thomas Henry Hucker, who had recently been admitted to the vagrant ward and had previously been convicted of being an idle and disorderly person, had been set to work in the garden, but had then absconded by climbing over the wall. Hucker had been found by the police who had arrested him. In the light of Hucker's previous convictions (list included in the documentation) he was sentenced to two months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1890/067
Johnson	Lucy	Foote	Harry	28	07	1890	Wilful damage to a tree	Wd	Lucy Johnson of Broad Street complained that Harry Foote of No 29a Broad Street had deliberately cut down part of a jasmine tree growing in the garden belonging to herself and her father. She assessed the value of the damage as being 15/-.	1890/068

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Langley	Simeon	01	08	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, charged Simeon Langley of St Thomas Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in Union Street. Langley pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs of 8/-. Langley was noted as having paid the amount in full.	1890/069
Russ	Alfred George	Coleman	Joseph	07	08	1890	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, complained that Joseph Coleman, late of Priest Row, smith, had run away and deserted his wife, Jane, and their children who had now become chargeable to the common fund of the Union. A warrant was issued for the arrest of Joseph Coleman.	1890/070
Bisgood	John	Burridge	Charles	09	08	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Burridge of Union Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in Union Street. Burridge was fined 5/- with costs of 8/- or to serve 14 days in prison in the event of default. Burridge paid 5/- immediately and was given until Saturday week to pay the outstanding balance of 8/-.	1890/071
Police		Woodgate	Susan	09	08	1890	Theft of household items	T	Susan Woodgate, wife of John Charles Woodgate of Southover, paper maker, was charged with the theft of multiple household items, including meat fat, butter, knife, brush and cloths (it is not stated from whom the items were stolen). Susan Woodgate was fined 5/- with costs of £1. The sum of £1.5s.0d was recorded as paid.	1890/072
Police		Burridge	Ann	09	08	1890	Theft of meat	T	Ann Burridge, wife of Charles Burridge of Union Street, labourer, was charged with the theft of a quantity of meat from The Swan Hotel. She was found guilty of the offence and was allowed one week within which to pay the sum of £1.	1890/073
Bisgood	John	Bird	Ernest	09	08	1890	Profane and obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ernest Bird of St Thomas Street with using profane and obscene language in High Street. The hearing did not take place until November as it appeared that Bird had absconded to Wales (unless this is a misinterpretation of the handwriting). Bird was fined 5/- with costs of 9/- or, in the event of default, to spend 14 days in prison.	1890/074
Justices		Various		14	08	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty session sitting of 14 August. The minutes include details of a temporary transfer of the licence for The Nag's Head from George Parsons, who was noted as retiring, to F H Godfrey.	1890/075

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Hansford	Edward	Ball	Thomas	27	08	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Hansford charged Thomas Ball of St Thomas Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly on Cathedral Green. Charles Fox of the Somerset and Bath Lunatic Asylum was called as a witness for the prosecution. Ball was fined 10/- including costs with this sum to be paid within a week.	1890/076
Ford	Thomas James	Francis	George	27	08	1890	Cruelty to a mare	C	Thomas Ford of Bridgwater, an inspector for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, complained that George Francis of Coxley, haulier, had ill-treated a mare by working the animal when it was clearly not in a fit state to do so. Francis pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- with costs of 8/- or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison. The sum of 13/- was recorded as paid.	1890/077
Collins	Edwin Adolphus	Hayes Mapstone Onion	Arthur William Albert	29	08	1890	Stealing fruit from a private garden	T	Edwin Adolphus Collins of Priory Road, auctioneer, complained that Arthur Hayes of Tucker Street was found in Collins' garden in the process of attempting to steal fruit. Collins claimed that Hayes was being aided and abetted by William Mapstone and Albert Onion who were also present at the same time. All three defendants pleaded not guilty but were each required to pay the sum of 2/6d.	1890/078
Bendall	William Newport	Bale	James	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 18 April William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against James Bale of Southover for non-payment of water rent of 2/6d. This sum remained outstanding and Bale was now summoned again, with the outstanding debt being increased by 1/- to 3/6d for the cost of the summons. On 10 September Bale paid 2/- with the balance promised for Monday of the following week. Note: there is no documentation recording the judgement against James Bale on 18 April, although there is a judgement against a Mrs Bale of Wellington for a property in Southover, although for a different amount (see case 1890/034).	1890/079
Bendall	William Newport	Morgan	Mary	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 10 October 1889 William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against Mary Morgan of Mill Lane for non-payment of water rent of 15/-. This sum remained outstanding and Mary Morgan was now summoned again. A distress warrant had been issued adding 1/6d to the debt but realising no money. Mary Morgan had paid 6/- reducing the debt to 10/6d, but with the cost of the new summons the outstanding debt was now 11/6d. She was ordered to pay the outstanding balance forthwith.	1890/080

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Bendall	William Newport	Morgan	Mary	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 18 April William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against Mary Morgan of Mill Lane for non-payment of water rent of 5/6d. This sum remained outstanding and Mary Morgan was now summoned again, with the outstanding debt being increased by 1/- to 6/6d for the cost of the summons. She was ordered to pay the outstanding balance forthwith.	1890/081
Bendall	William Newport	Hatcher	Alfred	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 18 April William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against Alfred Hatcher of South Street for non-payment of water rent of 12/6d. A distress warrant had subsequently been issued, increasing the outstanding debt by 1/6d to 14/- but realised no money to pay down the debt. Hatcher was now summoned again, with the outstanding debt being increased by 1/6d to 15/6d for the cost of the summons. Hatcher appeared and was instructed to pay the outstanding balance by Saturday or go to prison for 14 days.	1890/082
Bendall	William Newport	Ball	Frederick	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 18 April William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against Frederick Ball of Mill Lane for non-payment of water rent of 5/6d. This sum remained outstanding and Bale was now summoned again, with the outstanding debt being increased by 1/- to 6/6d for the cost of the summons. On 11 September Ball paid the sum of 3/- reducing the amount outstanding to 3/6d. He was granted a further 7 days within which to pay the remainder.	1890/083
Bendall	William Newport	Vincent	Joseph	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 10 October 1889 William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against Joseph Vincent of South Street for non-payment of water rent of 13/3d. A distress warrant was raised increasing the outstanding debt to 14/9d. The sum of 12/- was then paid, leaving an outstanding balance of 2/9. This sum remained outstanding, leading to the issue of a new summons at a cost of 1/-. The outstanding debt of 3/9d was recorded as being settled.	1890/084
Bendall	William Newport	Hopkins	Robert	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 18 April William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against Robert Hopkins of Southover for non-payment of water rent of 17/6d. Hopkins had subsequently paid 15/- but this left an outstanding balance of 2/6d which was not cleared. The issue of this summons increased the outstanding debt by 1/- to 3/6d, but this sum was recorded as received on 10 September and the account was settled.	1890/085

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Bendall	William Newport	Bartlett	George	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 18 April William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street for non-payment of water rent of 7/6d. This sum remained outstanding and Bartlett was now summoned again, with the outstanding debt being increased by 1/- to 8/6d for the cost of the summons. The sum of 8/6d was presumably paid since the cover of the case document is designated as being 'settled'.	1890/086
Bendall	William Newport	Trimm	George	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 18 April William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against George Trimm of Mill Lane for non-payment of water rent of 12/6d. This sum remained outstanding and Trimm was now summoned again, with the outstanding debt being increased by 1/- to 13/6d for the cost of the summons. The decision of the justices was to excuse Trimm from payment because of illness.	1890/087
Bendall	William Newport	Trimm	George	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 11 October 1888 William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against George Trimm of Mill Lane for non-payment of water rent of 8/6d. This sum remained outstanding and Trimm was now summoned again, with the outstanding debt being increased by 1/- to 9/6d for the cost of the summons. The decision of the justices was to excuse Trimm from payment because of illness.	1890/088
Bendall	William Newport	Connock	Frederick	29	08	1890	Non-payment of water rent	N	On 18 April William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against Frederick Connock of Union Street for non-payment of the general district rate of 11/-. This sum remained outstanding and Connock was now summoned again, with the outstanding debt being increased by 1/6d to 12/6d for the cost of the summons.	1890/089
Bendall	William Newport	Burridge	Charles	29	08	1890	Non-payment of general district rate		On 18 April William Newport Bendall obtained a judgement against Charles Burridge of Union Street for non-payment of water rent of 11/-. This sum remained outstanding and Burridge was now summoned again, with the outstanding debt being increased by 1/6d to 12/6d for the cost of the summons.	1890/090
Hansford	Edward	Smart	John	01	09	1890	Drunkenness	D	John Smart, aged 75, was charged with being drunk in St John Street on a Saturday night. PC Hansford found that Smart had 1/1d in cash on him when he was arrested. Smart pleaded guilty to the offence but was discharged.	1890/091

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Jones	John Marchant			04	09	1890	Licence transfer application	La	An application was made for a temporary transfer of the liquor licence for The Foresters Arms in Broad Street from John Marchant Jones to William Curtis Padfield. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1890/092
Bennett	N J			06	09	1890	Licence extension application	La	An application was made by Mr Bennett to extend his liquor licence to midnight on 9 September 1890 in order to host the Oddfellows' dinner. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1890/093
Hansford	Edward	Mathews Moore Fry	Arthur William William	06	09	1890	Obstructing the highway	O	PC Hansford charged Arthur Mathews, William Moore and William Fry, all of St Thomas Street, with starting a fire close to the road in St Thomas Street and thus causing problems for passing traffic and pedestrians. All three defendants pleaded not guilty but they were ordered to pay the costs of the case of 6/6d, requiring each of them to pay 2/2d.	1890/094
Russ	Alfred George	Perry	James	10	09	1890	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, complained that James Perry, late of Tucker Street, aged 33, had run away and deserted his wife, Charlotte, aged 31 and their 5 children who had become chargeable to the common fund of the Union on 5 July 1890 and were still chargeable. The children were named as James aged 10, Frederick aged 5, Elizabeth aged 3 and the twins Ethel and Albert aged 17 months. A warrant was issued for the arrest of James Perry. Perry was subsequently arrested and sentenced to two calendar months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet; the costs of the commitment hearing after his arrest were shown as 9/-.	1890/095
Justices		Various		11	09	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of petty sessions sitting of 11 September 1890.	1890/096
George	John	White	Albert	19	09	1890	Wilful damage	Wd	John George complained that Albert White had deliberately broken two panes of glass in properties that he owned. White had first gone to a property occupied by Mrs Grey and put his fist or a stick through one of her windows. Thomas Moore got hold of White and took him away but he returned and broke another window in a neighbouring property. Police serjeant Knight stated that White was under the influence of liquor. White was fined 10/- with costs of 13/6d; both sums were noted as paid.	1890/097

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Justices		Emley	William	25	09	1890	Licence application	La	The justices granted William Emley of High Street a licence to sell wines and spirits. Note: neither the forename nor surname of the individual applying for the licence is clear, so either or both may possibly be incorrect. Nor is there an indication as to whether the licence was for a retail shop or an inn.	1890/098
Moore	Ann	Moore Moore	William Alice	02	10	1890	Assault	A	Ann Moore of Easton, widow, complained that she had been assaulted and beaten by William Moore and Alice Moore, both of South Street, Wells. At the hearing the case was described as having been settled.	1890/099
Perry	John			04	10	1890	Licence application	La	John Perry of Street, cattle dealer, applied for a temporary transfer of the licence for The Golden Heart from R Vaughan to be effective immediately. The justices granted a transfer until 12 December on payment of the appropriate fee of 1/6d.	1890/100
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		04	10	1890		Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that certain parents had failed to send their child to school on a sufficiently frequent basis. The individuals affected are detailed on the succeeding entries.	1890/101
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Treasure	Levi	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Levi Treasure of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his son, George, aged 12, attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the most recent period George had made no attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. George Treasure was recorded as having fully passed standard IV. Treasure's wife attended the hearing. A fine of 2/6d was imposed and this was recorded as paid.	1890/101a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Keniston	Henry	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Keniston of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his son, George, aged 12, attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the most recent period George had made no attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. George Keniston was recorded as having passed standard IV. Henry Keniston was discharged as he had been ill.	1890/101b

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Marsh	Silas	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Herbert, aged 12, attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the most recent period Herbert had made only 14 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Herbert Marsh was recorded as having fully passed standard III. Silas Marsh was ordered to ensure that Herbert Marsh attended school as required by law.	1890/101c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Coles	Walter	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Walter Coles of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his son, George, aged 9, attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the most recent period George had made only 20 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. George Coles was recorded as having fully passed standard II. Walter Coles was fined 3/6d.	1890/101d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Coles	Walter	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Walter Coles of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Elizabeth, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Elizabeth had made only 20 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Elizabeth Coles was recorded as having passed standard IV. Walter Coles was fined 3/6d.	1890/101e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Coles	Walter	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Walter Coles of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Rose, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Rose had made only 22 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Walter Coles was fined 3/6d.	1890/101f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Woolford	George	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Woolford of South Street was charged with failing to ensure that his son, William, aged 9, attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the most recent period William had made only 5 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. William Woolford was recorded as having passed standard III. George Woolford's wife appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned until December. At the hearing in December the case was dismissed.	1890/101g

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Woolford	George	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Woolford of South Street was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Emma, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Emma had made no attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Emma Woolford was recorded as having passed standard III. George Woolford's wife appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned until December. At the hearing in December the case was dismissed.	1890/101h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burridge	Charles	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Charles Burridge of Union Street was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Frederick, aged 10, attended school sufficiently often. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, reported that in the most recent period Frederick had made only 25 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Frederick Burridge was recorded as having passed standard I. Charles Burridge was fined 5/-.	1890/101i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burridge	Charles	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Charles Burridge of Union Street was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Emily, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Emily had made only 20 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Charles Burridge was fined 5/-.	1890/101j
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Francis	Frederick Charles	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Frederick Charles Francis of South Street was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Rose, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Rose had made only 18 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Rose Francis was recorded as having passed standard IV. Francis' wife appeared at the hearing and Francis was discharged with a caution.	1890/101k
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Francis	Frederick Charles	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Frederick Charles Francis of South Street was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Emma, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Emma had made only 6 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Emma Francis was recorded as having passed standard I. Francis' wife appeared at the hearing and Francis was discharged with a caution.	1890/101l

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Francis	Frederick Charles	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Frederick Charles Francis of South Street was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Bessie, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Bessie had made only 25 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Bessie Francis was recorded as having passed standard I. Francis' wife appeared at the hearing and Francis was discharged with a caution.	1890/101m
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Green's Place, Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Matilda, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Matilda had made no attendances when the school was open for 86 attendances. Matilda White was recorded as not having passed any standard. Joseph White's wife appeared at the hearing. White was fined 2/6d. By 27 November this fine - and the fine of 2/6d for his daughter, Mary Ann, remained unpaid. The justices issued a distress warrant at a cost of 1/6d, increasing White's total debt to 6/6d.	1890/101n
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Green's Place, Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Mary Ann, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Mary Ann had made only 24 attendances when the school was open for 86 attendances. Joseph White's wife appeared at the hearing. White was fined 2/6d. By 27 November this fine - and the fine of 2/6d for his daughter, Matilda, remained unpaid. The justices issued a distress warrant at a cost of 1/6d, increasing White's total debt to 6/6d.	1890/101o
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hawkins	John	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John Hawkins of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Kate, attended school sufficiently often. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the most recent period Kate had made only 24 attendances when the school was open for 50 attendances. Kate Hawkins was recorded as having passed standard II. John Hawkins was discharged.	1890/101p

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Ball	Frederick	04	10	1890	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Frederick Ball of Mill Lane was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Sidney, aged 9, attended school sufficiently often. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at his school, reported that in the most recent period Sidney had made only 46 attendances when the school was open for 76 attendances. Sidney Ball was recorded as having passed standard 0. Frederick Ball was fined 5/-. By 27 November the sum of 5/- remained unpaid, so the justices ordered a distress warrant to be issued at a cost of 1/6d, increasing the outstanding debt to 6/6d	1890/101q
Hansford	Edward	Bedford Harvey	William Charles Edward	06	10	1890	Obscene language	Pr	PC Hansford stated that he had been on duty in the Market Place with police serjeant Knight when he had seen William Bedford and Edward Harvey together with two other men named Hatcher and Green. They had evidently been drinking and were indulging in some horseplay as they went down to Southover. PC Hansford noted that there was a lot of swearing and use of foul language. He went to take their names and addresses so that he could issue summons for the use of bad language; by now Harvey seemed to have left the group and Green walked away as PC Hansford confronted them. Bedford and Hatcher refused to give their names and addresses and PC Hansford then caught hold of Hatcher to take him to the police station. This resulted in a struggle during which Hansford claimed that he was assaulted by Bedford and Harvey (see case 1890/103). Bedford and Harvey were both found guilty of using obscene language and required to pay 2/6d and 7/6d respectively.	1890/102
Hansford	Edward	Bedford Harvey	William Charles Edward	06	10	1890	Assaulting a police officer	A	As noted in case 1890/102 PC Hansford was seeking to obtain names and addresses of William Bedford and his friend called Hatcher in order to charge them with using obscene language when a struggle broke out as he was attempting to catch Hatcher. William Bedford and Edward Harvey sought to wrest Hatcher from PC Hansford's grasp and punched the officer several times in the ribs and around the ear. Hatcher managed to break free and, together with Bedford and Harvey ran down Southover to the lower lodging house. PC Hansford claimed that his tunic was torn and the strap on his helmet was broken in the scuffle. Bedford and Harvey were convicted of assault and fined £1 each with costs of 12/6d for Bedford and 15/- for Harvey.	1890/103

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hansford	Edward	Hatcher Green	Frank Charles	06	10	1890	Assaulting a police officer	A	PC Hansford complained that Frank Hatcher and Charles Green had been involved in the assault upon him for which he had also laid charges against William Charles Bedford and Edward Harvey (see case 1890/103). Hester Green of Southover summoned Bessie Wesley of Southover, spinster, to give evidence on behalf of Charles Green, while James Walter of Southover summoned Alfred Stevens of Southover, labourer, to give evidence on behalf of Frank Hatcher.	1890/104
Hansford	Edward	Harvey Green Hatcher	Edward Charles Frank	06	10	1890	Assaulting a police officer	A	These documents repeat the charge laid by PC Hansford that he had been assaulted in the course of his duty by Edward Harvey, Charles Green and Frank Hatcher, all of Southover and all described as labourers. See also cases 1890/103 and 1890/104.	1890/105
Sherston	John Davis	Hooper	John	06	10	1890	Notice of eviction	Ev	Francis Osborne Oates Chubb, acting as solicitor for John Davis Sherston of Evercreech, notified the justices that he was filing an eviction notice against John Hooper of No 9 St John Street, a tenement owned by John Davis Sherston and rented to John Hooper at a weekly rent of 4/-. Hooper had already been notified in July that his tenancy was being terminated because of arrears of rent (shown as being either £10 or £14), but had refused to quit the property. Chubb then advised that they would require Hooper to vacate the premises by 20 October. Hooper did not release the premises on 20 October and at a petty sessions sitting on 28 October the justices issued a warrant for eviction.	1890/106
Hansford	Edward	Vincent Moore	Elizabeth Agnes	07	10	1890	Obstructing the police in the execution of their duty		PC Hansford complained that Elizabeth Vincent and Agnes Moore, both of Southover, had obstructed the police in carrying out their duty. This was in relation to the incident involving William Charles Bedford, Edward Harvey, Frank Hatcher and Charles Green (see cases 1890/103 and 1890/104). Elizabeth Vincent and Agnes Moore were both later summoned to act as witnesses for the defence when the case came before the petty sessions sitting (see case 1890/109).	1890/107

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Watts	Henry	Charles	William	07	10	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	William Charles of High Street, butcher, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in High Street. PC Henry Watts summoned William Chappell of the brush factory to give evidence for the prosecution, while John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, summoned Frederick Coles, beerhouse keeper of The King's Head in High Street, also to give evidence for the prosecution. Charles pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- with costs of 17/-.	1890/108
Justices		Bedford Harvey	William Charles Edward	08	10	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 October. This sitting was devoted entirely to the charges against William Charles Bedford and Edward Harvey. The minutes run to many pages of detailed notes. Bedford and Harvey pleaded not guilty to both charges against them. Testimony was given by PC Hansford and police serjeant Knight, but evidence was also provided by a number of other witnesses, namely: Emily Vile, wife of Charles Vile of Southover, chimney sweep; William Miller of South Street, fitter at St Cuthbert's paper mill; Jane Vincent of No 24 Southover, wife of a pensioner; Agnes Moore, described as a spinster lodging at Mrs Vincent's house; Elizabeth Vincent, daughter of Jane Vincent; Emma Shore, described as a spinster lodging at Mrs Vincent's house. Walter Bedford, William Bedford's father, had summoned several of these witnesses and had also employed a solicitor by the name of Norton, while cross-examination of witnesses was also carried out by John Bisgood, deputy chief constable. As shown in cases 1890/102 and 1890/103 Bedford and Harvey were convicted on both charges and fined appropriately.	1890/109
Justices		Various		09	10	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 October. This meeting dealt with cases other than those arising from the incident involving William Charles Bedford, Edward Harvey, Frank Hatcher and Charles Green. There is also a note to indicate that the alcohol licence for The Foresters' Arms was transferred to W C Padfield.	1890/110

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Brooks	Walt	11	10	1890	Not vaccinating child against smallpox	Nv	Frank Carter Thatcher, described as the vaccination officer for the city, complained that Walt Brooks of Broad Street, innkeeper, and his wife, Maria (née Crandon), had refused to have their daughter, Daisy Florence, now aged around 21 months, vaccinated against smallpox, despite having been notified that it was a requirement to do so. Brooks was found guilty and required to pay 12/1d to cover the costs of the case; he was also instructed to make certain that the child was vaccinated before 4 November.	1890/111
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Paul	James Robart	11	10	1890	Not vaccinating child against smallpox	Nv	Frank Carter Thatcher, described as the vaccination officer for the city, complained that James Robart Paul of St John Street, bootmaker, and his wife, Anna (née Hall, had refused to have their daughter, Nellie, now aged around 20 months, vaccinated against smallpox, despite having been notified that it was a requirement to do so. Paul was found guilty and required to pay 9/1d to cover the costs of the case; he was also instructed to make certain that the child was vaccinated before 4 November.	1890/112
Godfrey	Frederick Henry	Vincent Vincent	James John	11	10	1890	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	Frederick Henry Godfrey, innkeeper of The Nag's Head, complained that James Vincent of Southover, labourer, and John Vincent also of Southover, mason, had become quarrelsome and disorderly on his licensed premises and had then refused to leave the premises when he requested them to go. As a consequence they had offended against the terms of the alcohol licence granted to the property. The defendants were both found guilty and each was required to pay a fine of 5/- with costs of 5/-, giving a total of 10/- each.	1890/113
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Edward Athelstane Serel, collector of the poor rate, complained that certain individuals had not paid the poor rate as required and, moreover, were in arrears for previous poor rate assessments. The individuals concerned and the amounts involved are shown in the subsequent entries.	1890/114

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Walter	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Walter Cole of Southover was recorded as owing 4/8d from the poor rate assessment of May 1890 and a further 9/8d from earlier poor rate assessments. Together with costs of 2/6d, Cole was shown as owing a total of 16/10d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant unless the outstanding debt was paid within one week. A further note indicated that Cole had been granted until 14 November to pay the debt. Note: in an earlier case in October 1890 the surname is given as Coles (see cases 1890/101d to 1890/101f).	1890/114a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Evans	George	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	George Evans of Southover was recorded as owing 12/10d from the poor rate assessment of May 1890. Together with costs of 2/6d, Evans was shown as owing a total of 15/4d. The outstanding debt was recorded as being paid.	1890/114b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Salvidge	William	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Salvidge of St Cuthbert Street was recorded as owing 11/1d from the poor rate assessment of May 1890. Together with costs of 2/6d, Salvidge was shown as owing a total of 13/7d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant forthwith.	1890/114c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Clist	Gabriel	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Gabriel Clist of No 4 New Town was recorded as owing 8/9d from the poor rate assessment of May 1890 plus a further 4/8d from the poor rate assessment of November 1889. Together with costs of 2/6d, Clist was shown as owing a total of 15/11d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant if the outstanding debt was not paid within a week.	1890/114d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Oxley	Henry	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry Oxley of Tucker Street was recorded as owing 13/5d from the poor rate assessment of May 1890 plus a further 12/6d from the poor rate assessment of November 1889. Together with costs of 2/6d, Oxley was shown as owing a total of £1.8s.5d. The account is recorded as being paid.	1890/114e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hawkins jnr	James	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	James Hawkins the younger of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 4/8d from the poor rate assessment of May 1890. Together with costs of 2/6d, Hawkins was shown as owing a total of 7/2d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant forthwith.	1890/114f

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Woodburn	Frederick	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Frederick Woodburn of High Street was recorded as owing 16/- from the poor rate assessment of May 1890 plus a further 17/2d from the poor rate assessment of November 1889. Together with costs of 2/6d, Woodburn was shown as owing a total of £1.15s.8d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant.	1890/114g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Brooks	Walter	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Walter Brooks of High Street was recorded as owing £1.5s.4d from the poor rate assessment of May 1890 plus a further £1.7s.2d from the poor rate assessment of November 1889 and £1.4s.11d from earlier poor rate assessments. Together with costs of 2/6d, Brooks was shown as owing a total of £3.19s.11d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant forthwith.	1890/114h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Brooks	Walt	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Walt Brooks, innkeeper of The Angel Inn in Broad Street, was recorded as owing 19/10d from the poor rate assessment of May 1890 and a further £1.1s.3d from earlier poor rate assessments. Together with costs of 2/6d, Brooks was shown as owing a total of £2.3s.7d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant if the debt was not cleared in 7 days.	1890/114i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hopkins	Robert	13	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Robert Hopkins of Southover was recorded as owing 5/3d from the poor rate assessment of May 1890 plus a further 5/7d from the poor rate assessment of November 1889 and 9/- from earlier poor rate assessments. Together with costs of 2/6d, Hopkins was shown as owing a total of £1.2s.4d. A payment of 18/- was recorded as being received. The justices granted Hopkins one week within which to pay off the balance.	1890/114j
Police		White	John	14	10	1890	Theft of a walking stick	T	John White was charged with stealing a walking stick belonging to Henry Pearce. The walking stick was valued at 6d. White was found guilty and fined 2/6d with costs of 22/6d; these sums were recorded as paid.	1890/115

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Barr Butler	Henry Daniel	15	10	1890	Affray	Af	Henry Barr of Yarley near Wookey, licensed hawker, and Daniel Butler of Farnham, Surrey, also a licensed hawker, were charged with causing an affray in St John Street. Witness statements were provided by local residents: Charles Hayter who resided at the weighbridge; Herbert Sheppard of St John Street, carpenter; Charles Knight of St John Street; James Nugent. Initially two women appeared to be fighting in the street, thought to be the wives of Henry Barr and Daniel Butler. Barr's daughter also seemed to be involved, possibly trying to get her mother away. Daniel Butler got his wife away and into a trap further down the street, but she returned and was knocked to the ground by Barr. This brought Barr and Butler to fight each other and both of their wives became involved again. While this fracas was taking place on the road and in the gutter, Barr's daughter appeared to have a fit in the middle of the road and was carried into The Rose & Crown. Barr and Butler were each required to put forward a bond of £10 and to provide a surety of £10 guaranteed by another person to ensure their good behaviour for 6 months. Barr's surety was provided by his wife, Harriet, and the surety for Butler was provided by James Bennett the younger of Coxley, haulier. In addition Barr was required to pay 7/- for the costs of the case and Butler 10/9d with the alternative of 14 days in prison with hard labour if either of them should default. All the costs were recorded as paid.	1890/116
Hansford	Edward	Hatcher	Frank	16	10	1890	Obscene language Assaulting a police officer	Pr A	PC Hansford charged Frank Hatcher of Southover in connection with the incident involving William Bedford and Edward Harvey (see cases 1890/102, 1890/103 and 1890/104, as well as the minutes of the applicable petty session sitting in case 1890/109). Hatcher had been involved with the others in using profane and obscene language and had refused to give his name and address to PC Hansford who was intending to report him for that offence. When Hansford tried to take Hatcher to the police station Bedford and Harvey tried to release Hatcher from PC Hansford's custody and succeeded in doing so but only by assaulting the police officer. Hatcher pleaded guilty to using obscene language and was remanded in custody pending further evidence.	1890/117

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Phipps	Thomas	17	10	1890	Theft of tripe	T	Thomas Phipps was charged with stealing a pound of tripe belonging to Mary Boulton. The tripe was valued at 4d. Phipps was found guilty and fined 7/6d, including costs, although the costs were noted as being 21/- including 14/- ascribed to 'J C fees'. Note: the object stolen may not be tripe but the word is not clearly legible; it might possibly be 'knife' but the description contain a reference to '1 pound'.	1890/118
Justices		Hatcher Green	Frank Charles	20	10	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 20 October. The sitting was devoted entirely to hearing the charges of using obscene language and assaulting a police officer that were levelled against Frank Hatcher and Charles Green (see cases 1890/102 to 1890/105 and also 1890/117). The incident is the same as that involved in the cases involving William Charles Bedford and Edward Harvey (see case 1890/103). The evidence is much the same as are the witnesses involved and, as a result, there are again many pages of detailed notes. Hatcher and Green both pleaded not guilty but were both convicted on both charges. There are pages of confusing numbers regarding the fines for each but in the end Hatcher appears to have been required to pay £3.2s.8d and Green £2.0s.11d.	1890/119
Wheeler	George Martin	Bendall	William Newport	23	10	1890	Fraudulently obtaining a banker's cheque	Fr	George Martin Wheeler of St Cuthbert Street, pawnbroker, complained that William Newport Bendall, late of Back Lane, had knowingly used false pretences to obtain from Wheeler a banker's cheque to the value of £3.15s.10d and therefore to cheat him of this asset.	1890/120
Police		Smith	M M	27	10	1890	Drunkenness	D	M M Smith was charged with being drunk in Sadler Street. The defendant pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d with costs of 6/6d or, if in default, to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. The fine and costs were recorded as paid. Note: while the surname of Smith is correct the forename(s) may not be correctly shown since the handwriting on the original document is far from clear and open to a variety of interpretations.	1890/121
Police		Jones	Anne	27	10	1890	Drunkenness	D	Anne Jones was charged with being drunk in Southover. She pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d with costs of 6/6d. She was allowed 7 days within which to pay.	1890/122

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Salvidge	William	28	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Edward Athelstane Serel, acting on behalf of the Overseers of the Poor, complained that William Salvidge had not paid the poor rate set on 20 May 1890 (see also case 1890/114c). The sum outstanding was 11/1d plus costs incurred in issuing and delivering this summons of 6/- making a total of 17/1d. Salvidge subsequently paid 11/1d on 1 December 1890 and cleared the remaining debt on 8 December 1890.	1890/123
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hopkins	Robert	28	10	1890	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Edward Athelstane Serel on behalf of the Overseers of the Poor complained that Robert Hopkins had not paid the poor rates set on 20 November 1888, 20 May 1889, 20 November 1889 and 20 May 1890. The sum outstanding was now 19/10d plus costs incurred in issuing and delivering this summons of 6/- making a total of £1.5s.10d. At some point Robert Hopkins made a payment of 18/- leaving an outstanding debt of 7/10d. The account was then recorded as cleared on 9 January 1891.	1890/124
Justices		Various		28	10	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 28 October. All cases heard are documented in earlier entries.	1890/125
Stevens	Edward	Moore	William	01	11	1890	Assault	A	Edward Stevens of South Street, butcher, complained that he had been assaulted by William Moore of Southover, labourer. Stevens wished to summon Charles Allen of Tor Lane, painter, and William Smith of Street, traveller, to provide evidence on his behalf. The case was recorded as being settled out of court before the date set for the hearing.	1890/126
Police		Western	Annie	03	11	1890	Wandering lunatic	Lu	PC Hansford was called to the Somerset and Dorset railway station where Annie Western was found to be wandering around in the road. She was taken to the police station where she was interviewed by police serjeant Knight and by Henry Livett, surgeon to the Workhouse. Annie Western had asked for a ticket to the Workhouse on several occasions and she also claimed that she was being followed by men who were encouraging her to commit suicide, although she had only heard them and never actually seen them. The police detained her as a wandering lunatic.	1890/127
Police		Smith Scott	John John	04	11	1890	Begging in the street	V	John Smith and John Scott were both charged with begging in the street. Both pleaded guilty and were sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1890/128

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
James	Mary	James	William Robert	04	11	1890	Assault	A	Mary James, wife of George Henry James of St Thomas Street, complained that she had been assaulted and beaten by William Henry James. She asked that he be bound over and required to put forward sureties to guarantee his future conduct towards her. Mary James claimed that William James had come to her house and demanded to know why she had opened a particular letter (presumably one that had been addressed to him); she asserted that she had not noticed the address before she opened it. William James' mother then came in and Mary James asked her to leave, and when she refused to go, went to throw her out. At that point William James allegedly struck her in the face and back and then began to choke her. She was rescued by the intervention of a neighbour, Mrs Boyce, and another neighbour took William James away. William James was bound over in the sum of £10 to keep the peace for the next 6 months, particularly towards Mary James.	1890/129
James	William Robert	James	George Henry	04	11	1890	Assault	A	William Robert James of 2 Dell's Place, St Thomas Street, collier, complained that he had been unlawfully assaulted by George Henry James of No 4 Hubert Place, St Thomas Street, fireman. He also claimed that he feared future bodily harm from his assailant and requested that George Henry James should be bound over to keep the peace. This case was the result of the earlier incident involving William James and Mary James, the wife of George Henry James (see case 1890/129). William James claimed that he had been at home in the evening when there was a knock at the door. Henry Wickham was at the door and when William James opened the door his brother, George Henry James, immediately attacked him. He allegedly also attacked William James' mother, Louisa, who tried to intervene and threatened that they would soon be attending a funeral. Henry Wickham managed to separate the combatants and take George Henry James away. George Henry James was bound over in the sum of £10 to keep the peace for the next 6 months, particularly towards William Robert James.	1890/130
Justices		James James James	Mary William George	04	11	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 4 November. These notes deal exclusively with the incidents involving members of the James family (see cases 1890/129 And 1890/130).	1890/131

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hansford	Edward	Brass	Thomas	06	11	1890	Riding on the shafts of a waggon	Rd	PC Hansford charged Thomas Brass of Glastonbury, labourer, with dangerous driving of a horse and waggon in Priory Road by riding on the shafts of the waggon. Brass was ordered to pay the costs of the case of 9/-. This sum was recorded as paid.	1890/132
Walters	Sarah Godsell	Francis	Charles	06	11	1890	Bastardy	B	In December 1877 Sarah Godsell Walters late Hopkins, formerly a single woman but now married, won a judgement against Charles Francis of Coxley which determined that he was the putative father of her child. Francis was required to make maintenance payments of 2/6d per week until the child reached the age of 13. Francis was now in arrears for the period from 23 June 1890 to 13 October 1890 amounting to a debt of £2.	1890/133
Foster	Reginald Lowbridge	Bendall	William Newport	10	11	1890	Embezzlement	Em	Reginald Lowbridge Foster, town clerk, accused William Newport Bendall, rate collector for the city, of embezzling the sum of £2.15s.10d in one specific transaction. In addition, he charged Bendall with having carried out other felonious transactions resulting in a loss to the city of £128.3s.2d. Note: the amount recorded with respect to the single transaction is remarkably close to but does not match the sum referred to in the case between George Martin Wheeler and William Newport Bendall (see case 1890/120).	1890/134
Sharland	Samuel	Sharland	Frederick	10	11	1890	Assault	A	Samuel Sharland of Union Street, labourer at Wookey Mills, complained that Fred Sharland also of Union Street had assaulted him and threatened to murder him. Samuel Sharland claimed that he had been at home when Fred Sharland came in and demanded a particular cup and saucer that were on the dresser. Fred Sharland then dragged Samuel from his chair and struck him in the face. He was about to attack him again when Samuel grabbed a poker in self-defence. Others in the house at the time came to separate them. Samuel said that he was going to the police and Fred responded by threatening to murder Samuel if he was summoned. Fred Sharland was required to put forward a bond of £5 to guarantee his conduct for the next 6 months, particularly towards Samuel Sharland; if he failed to put forward the money he would go to prison for 7 days. Fred Sharland was also required to pay the costs of the case of 14/6d; if he failed to do so, then he would be sent to prison for 14 days. The costs of the case were recorded as paid.	1890/135

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Langley	George	Uphill	Frank	13	11	1890	Refusal to work	Rw	George Langley, master of Wells Union, reported that Frank Uphill, who had been an inmate for several days, had refused to perform the work allocated to him. Uphill had then apparently made an attempt to escape. He was sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1890/136
Justices		Various		13	11	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 November. In addition to other cases already covered in earlier transactions the minutes refer to a case involving George Langley of Wells Union and Frank Uphill (see case 1890/136).	1890/137
Police		Williams	Henry	17	11	1890	Drunkenness	D	Henry Williams was charged with being drunk in High Street. He was found guilty and fined 5/- with costs of 3/6d; failure to pay would result in 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1890/138
Bisgood	John	Parfitt	William Henry Worthy	22	11	1890	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Henry Worthy Parfitt, innkeeper, with being drunk on licensed premises, namely The Bull's Head Inn in Queen Street. Parfitt pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d with costs of 8/-; these sums were recorded as paid.	1890/139
Bendall	William Newport	Bartlett	George	26	11	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	In April 1890 George Bartlett was adjudged to owe 19/3d for the general district rate (see case 1890/039). Subsequently, in September, Bartlett made a payment of 7/6d, leaving an outstanding debt of 11/9d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant at a cost of 1/6d, increasing the outstanding debt to 13/3d. Payment of this sum was noted as received on 26 November. Note: Earlier entries indicate that the distress warrant was issued on 15 September rather than 22 November.	1890/140
Bendall	William Newport	Hopkins	Robert	26	11	1890	Non-payment of general district rate	N	In April 1890 Robert Hopkins was adjudged to owe 16/3d for the general district rate (see case 1890/040). Subsequently, in September, Hopkins made a payment of 12/6d, leaving an outstanding debt of 3/9d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant at a cost of 1/6d, increasing the outstanding debt to 5/3d. Payment of this sum was noted as received on 28 November. Note: Earlier entries indicate that the distress warrant was issued on 15 September rather than 26 November.	1890/141

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hansford	Edward	Hawkins	Charles	27	11	1890	Non-payment of fine	N	In May 1890 Charles Hawkins was found guilty of drunkenness and required to pay 10/-, including costs of 8/- (see case 1890/046). Hawkins had made a payment of 5/- but a further 5/- remained outstanding. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant at a cost of 1/6d, increasing the debt to 6/6d. Hawkins paid a further 5/- on 6 December but the remainder was not paid until 12 February 1891.	1890/142
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Shears	John	27	11	1890	Non-payment of fine	N	In May 1890 John Shears had incurred two fines each of 5/- for failing to ensure that two of his children attended school on a sufficiently frequent basis (see cases 1890/037h and 1890/037i). This debt of 10/- remained outstanding. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant at a cost of 1/6d, increasing the outstanding debt to 11/6d. The debt was recorded as being cleared on 30 December. Note: the initial entries for John Shears do not show fines being imposed, but the cases being adjourned pending the production of medical certificates.	1890/143
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	27	11	1890	Non-payment of fine	N	In October 1890 Joseph White incurred two fines of 2/6d each for failing to ensure that two of his children attended school on a sufficiently frequent basis (see cases 1890/101n and 1890/101o). By 27 November the sum of 5/- remained unpaid, so the justices ordered a distress warrant to be issued at a cost of 1/6d, increasing the outstanding debt to 6/6d.	1890/144
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Ball	Frederick	27	11	1890	Non-payment of fine	N	In October 1890 Frederick Ball was fined 5/- for failing to ensure that his child attended school on a sufficiently frequent basis (see case 1890/101q). By 27 November the sum of 5/- remained unpaid, so the justices ordered a distress warrant to be issued at a cost of 1/6d, increasing the outstanding debt to 6/6d.	1890/145
Police		Bennett	William	27	11	1890	Non-payment of fine	N	In June 1890 William Bennett of St John Street, haulier, is reported as incurring a fine and costs totalling 10/-. This sum remained outstanding. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant at a cost of 1/6d, increasing the outstanding debt to 11/6d. Payment of the full amount was noted as being made on 10 December. Note: there is no earlier entry in the file setting out the offence for which Bennett incurred the debt.	1890/146

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Hailley	George	03	12	1890	Theft of a coat	T	George Hailley was charged with stealing a coat belonging to Charles Tucker. The defendant was found guilty and fined 5/- with costs of £1.1s.0d or to spend one month in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Subsequently 4/2d was added to the costs of the case for the commitment to prison. Then a further note showed that the sum of £1.10s.2d was received from Shepton Mallet prison on 8 December. Note: the surname of the defendant is very unclear and therefore may not be correct.	1890/147
Wickenden Hain	Robert Walter			03	12	1890	Licence extension / transfer application	La	Robert Wickenden was granted a 1-hour extension to hold a lunch and a temporary transfer of the licence for The Heart of Oak was granted to Walter Hain. Both transactions required fees of 1/6d which were recorded as paid.	1890/148
Justices		Various		11	12	1890	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 December. The cases heard are shown in earlier entries. In addition, the licence for The Golden Heart Inn was noted as being transferred from Walter Russell Vaughan to John Perry. Also, George Miller was appointed as an assistant overseer of the poor in the In Parish of St Cuthbert.	1890/149
Police		Sage	Charles	15	12	1890	Drunkenness	D	Charles Sage was charged with being drunk in a public place. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was required to pay the costs of the case of 3/6d. He was ordered to pay these costs on the day of the hearing or spend 7 days in prison, but it appears that the payment was not made until 22 December.	1890/150
Beacon	Frederick			15	12	1890	Temporary licence transfer	La	An application for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence on The Mitre Vaults was granted. The transfer was made to Frederick Beacon.	1890/151
Langley	George	Hucker	Thomas Henry	18	12	1890	Absconding from Wells Union	Ab	George Langley, master of Wells Union, complained that Thomas Henry Hucker had absconded from Wells Union before his permitted date of discharge. This was a repeat of a similar offence in July 1890 (see case 1890/067). Hucker was sentenced to 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1890/152
Police		Vincent	John	29	12	1890	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Vincent was charged with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on Christmas Day. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d with costs of 3/6d. The sum of 6/- was recorded as paid.	1890/153

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Maine	Jane	29	12	1890	Drunkenness	D	Jane Maine of Priddy was charged with being drunk in Sadler Street on Christmas Eve. Jane Maine did not appear at the hearing in line with the recognisance that she had entered into with the serjeant of police and the hearing was postponed until the New Year.	1890/154
Justices		Various		31	12	1889	Correspondence	*	There are a number of items of correspondence between individuals and the clerk to the justices, Reginald Lowbridge Foster. Most of the correspondence relates to the payment of fines. Where possible, a probable cross-reference to a specific case is shown, but some of the correspondence is of a general nature and/or has no date so it is difficult to be confident of linking it to a specific case. The following entries group the correspondence by individual in alphabetic sequence of surname.	1890/155
Justices		Brooks	Walter	31	12	1889	Correspondence	*	There is a letter from Walter Brooks of High Street apparently from December 1890 promising to pay the poor rate 'without fail' on Monday. This probably relates to the outstanding debt of £1.5s.4d noted on 13 October (see case 1890/114i)	1890/155a
Justices		Lovell	Edward	31	12	1889	Correspondence	*	There is a letter from Reginald Lowbridge Foster, clerk to the justices, setting out two earlier convictions of Edward Lovell. The first in November 1886 was for embezzlement and for which Lovell received 12 strokes of the birch. The second was in July 1888 when he was convicted of stealing fruit and fined 1/- with costs of 10/-. There is no indication as to the recipients of this letter or the reason for it being written.	1890/155b
Justices		Morgan	Mary	31	12	1889	Correspondence	*	There are two notes from Mary Morgan. The first is noted as being received in March 1890 in which she sends a small amount of money, but claims that 2 children and herself are ill and she will send more money the following week. The second note is from April 1890 and encloses 2/- for the water rate with a promise to send more the following week.	1890/155c
Justices		Salvidge	Harriet	31	12	1889	Correspondence	*	Harriet Salvidge, wife of William Salvidge of St Cuthbert Street, wrote on 6 December to send a payment of 11/1d for the poor rate. This appears to relate to the summons received by William Salvidge in October (see case 1890/114c). A pencilled note indicates that 6/- was still due on this account.	1890/155d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		White	Joseph	31	12	1889	Correspondence	*	A note apparently from the School Attendance Committee gives an instruction to summon Joseph White in April 1890 because his children Matilda and Mary Ann have not been attending school (see also case 1890/054).	1890/155e

1891

Knight	James	Harding Pointing	Thomas Alice	02	01	1891	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant Knight charged Thomas Harding of Coxley and Alice Pointing of South Street with using obscene language in St John Street outside The Golden Heart Inn on 26 December 1890. For further details of the case against Thomas Harding see 1891/003b and for the case against Alice Pointing see 1891/004 .	1891/001
Wickenden	W H			05	01	1891	Licence extension application	La	W H Wickenden applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence in order to host the Quoit Club Smoking Concert. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1891/002
Police		Main	Jane	08	01	1891	Drunkenness	D	Jane Main of Priddy was charged with being drunk on 24 December in Sadler Street. An initial hearing was held in December 1890 but the case was adjourned until January (see case 1890/154). Prior to the January hearing police serjeant Knight received a letter from Joseph Palmer asking for lenient treatment for Jane Main. He explained that the old lady had been working hard for several months to turn over a new leaf and had only offended because some 'pretending friends' had offered her hot beer on a bitterly cold December day. Palmer asserted that Jane Main was very penitent and almost in despair over her lapse and he was certain that she would try to do better in the future. Jane Main pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 1/-; the fine was duly paid.	1891/003a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Harding	Thomas	08	01	1891	Using obscene language	Pr	PC Hansford saw Thomas Harding standing at the door of The Golden Heart Inn where he was shouting and swearing and using extremely vile language. Also present and using similar language was Alice Pointing (see case 1891/004). PC Hansford tried to persuade Harding to desist but without success. Police serjeant Knight also appeared but had no more success in persuading Harding to be quiet. Knight threatened to arrest Harding who was then pulled into the house by a woman. Harding was found guilty of the offence and fined 2/6d with costs of 9/-. Note: the date at the top of the documentation is shown as 8 January 1890, but this is assumed to be an error.	1891/003b
Police		Pointing	Alice	08	01	1891	Using obscene language	Pr	Alice Pointing was charged with using profane and obscene language in St John Street. She pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d with costs of 9/6d. Note: Pointing was charged with being involved in the same incident as Thomas Harding (see 1891/003b).	1891/004
Police		Regan	John	15	01	1891	Using obscene language	Pr	John Regan was charged with using obscene language in a public place. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison. The costs of the case were shown as 6/6d. Note: the sentence initially showed 7 days with hard labour but the latter part was struck out.	1891/005a
Wells Coffee Tavern				15	01	1891	Licence extension application	La	Wells Coffee Tavern applied for a one-hour extension to the alcohol licence on 19 January in order to host a dinner for the Ancient Order of Rechabites. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1891/005b
Coles	G F			24	01	1891	Licence extension application	La	G F Coles applied for a one-hour extension for a Robbie Burns' anniversary dinner. The application was granted on payment of 1/6d.	1891/006a
Norton	Mr			24	01	1891	Licence transfer application	La	Mr Norton applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Mitre Hotel to Charles Robert Ackland	1891/006b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Baker	George	24	01	1891	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Baker of Oakhill with wilfully obstructing the thoroughfare in High Street on 19 January by leaving his waggon there. Baker pleaded guilty to the charge. The costs of the case were shown as 9/-. Although this sum was the amount noted to be paid by Baker, the figure was then crossed out and replaced by the amount of 6/6d.	1891/007
Bisgood	John	Herring	Robert	24	01	1891	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Robert Herring of High Street with wilfully obstructing the thoroughfare in High Street on 19 January by leaving 4 or 5 barrels of petroleum in the street, some of which had rolled into the gutter. They had caused a problem to a passing horse-drawn waggon where the horse had shied. Herring pleaded guilty to the charge. The costs of the case were shown as 10/6d. These were to be borne by Herring but no fine was levied even though a note indicated that Herring was to be fined.	1891/008
Bisgood	John	Hooper	John	24	01	1891	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Hooper of Wellesley near Wells, labourer, with wilfully obstructing the thoroughfare in St Thomas Street on 19 January by leaving his waggon there. Hooper pleaded guilty to the offence and was discharged by the justices.	1891/009
Knight	James	Baker	James	30	01	1891	Obstructing the highway	O	Police serjeant James Knight charged James Baker of Union Street with wilfully obstructing the highway in Union Street on 27 January by leaving his waggon there. Baker pleaded guilty to the charge. The costs of the case were shown as 8/-, but Baker was discharged with a caution. Note: the documents initially show the offence to have taken place in High Street but in the summons this entry is crossed out and replaced by Union Street.	1891/010

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knigh	James	House Baker Sweet West Lovelace Ford Parker Radnedge	Thomas Charles William Benjamin Percy Ernest Frank Burt	30	01	1891	Obstructing the footway	O	Police serjeant James Knight charged a number of individuals with obstructing the footway in the Market Place by standing on the pavement in a group and preventing others from passing by. At least three pedestrians had been forced to step into the roadway in order to avoid the group who made no attempt to move. The individuals were listed as follows: - Thomas House - Charles Baker - William Sweet - Benjamin West - Percy Lovelace - Ernest Ford - Frank Parker - Burt Radnedge. Many of the youths had apparently been cautioned on several occasions about their habit of congregating on the pavements in the centre of Wells, particularly on Sunday evenings. Some of the youths were regular attenders at these gatherings, while other were appeared only occasionally and may not have been cautioned before. Thomas House and Frank Parker were required to pay 4/- each for the costs of the case. The others were discharged as it was considered to be their first offence. The total costs of the case were recorded as 16/-.	1891/011
Police		Wilson	Charles	26	01	1891	Drunkenness	D	Charles Wilson was charged with being drunk in the Market Place. He pleaded guilty and was discharged by the justices.	1891/012
Wickenden	W H			30	01	1891	Licence extension application	La	W H Wickenden applied for a two-hour extension to his alcohol licence in order to host the Post Office officials' supper. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d. In addition, Wickenden also applied for a one-hour extension of his alcohol licence to host the Quoit Club trust concert. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1891/013
Police		Boyce Hawkins jnr	George Charles	31	01	1891	Theft of eggs	T	George Boyce of Tor Street and Charles Hawkins the younger of St Thomas Street were charged with the theft of 6 hens' eggs valued at 6d, the property of Rev. J S Stubbs. Both defendants were found guilty and each was sentenced to 4 strokes of the birch rod.	1891/014

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Middle	Edwin			02	02	1891	Licence transfer application	La	Edwin Middle applied for a temporary transfer to himself of the alcohol licence for The Goat Inn. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1891/015a
Knight	James	Quinn	Thomas	02	02	1891	Theft of trousers Assault on police officer Wilful damage to cell	T A Wd	Police serjeant Knight arrested Thomas Quinn on a charge of stealing a pair of trousers valued at 4/11d from Charles Tucker of Sadler Street, draper. At the police station Quinn became violent and uncooperative when Knight subjected him to a search of his clothing. Quinn lay down on the floor, kicked Knight several times about the body and head and also tried to bite him. He swore loudly, using foul language and threatened that he would murder Knight when he got out. With the assistance of PC Watts, Quinn was handcuffed and taken down to the cells, attempting to kick and trip Knight on the stairs. Once in the cell Quinn succeeded in removing the handcuffs and then broke 4 panes of glass valued at around 2/- . When arrested Quinn had 3 1/2d on his person. Quinn was sentenced to one month in prison for theft and a further 3 months for the assault on a police officer. Although he pleaded guilty to the charge of wilful damage, there is no indication of any further punishment.	1891/015b
Luke	Henry	Andow	George	09	02	1891	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Luke charged George Andow of St Thomas Street, labourer, with being drunk in Sadler Street on 7 February. Luke had found Andow lying under an arch between Sadler Street and the Cathedral. He was able to get Andow to his home, but only with the assistance of Thomas Williams since Andow was too drunk to walk unaided. Andow pleaded not guilty but was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs, although the costs of the case alone were recorded as 11/-.	1891/016
Knight	James	Osborne	Frank	09	02	1891	Cruelty to a horse	C	Police serjeant Knight charged Frank Osborne of Merriott near Crewkerne, market gardener, with cruelty to a horse by working the animal when it was clearly not in a fit state. Osborne pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- with costs of 9/-. The sum of 14/- was recorded as being received.	1891/017

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		12	02	1891	Detailed minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 February 1891. Relevant information from the petty sessions sitting is included in the individual cases where these are described earlier. In addition to these cases the minutes also note an application from Mr Norton for a transfer of the licence for The Mitre Hotel and an application for the transfer of the licence for The Hearts of Oak to Mr Hain (surname unclear); both applications were granted. Also included is further information in the case of Joseph White for non-payment of a fine (see 1891/019).	1891/018
Justices		White	Joseph	12	02	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In November 1890 Joseph White was brought before the justices for non-payment of a fine incurred in October 1890 for failing to ensure that his children attended school sufficiently often (see 1890/144). White was ordered to pay the then outstanding amount of 6/6d. This sum remained outstanding and now White was instructed to pay 3/- by 1 March 1891 and the balance of 3/6d by 14 March 1891.	1891/019
Collins	Edwin Adolphus	Ball	John	21	02	1891	Clandestine removal of goods	Rg	Edwin Adolphus Collins, acting as an agent for Robert Isgar, who was operating under a power of attorney executed by Frederick Collins, the landlord, complained that John Ball of Mill Lane had fallen into rent arrears on the property in Mill Lane which he was renting. The rent was 3/- per week and the arrears had now reached 9/-. Collins claimed that Ball was aware that a distress warrant was about to be enacted to seize his possessions to pay off the rent arrears and he had therefore clandestinely removed his goods from the property in order to avoid them being taken for this purpose.	1891/020
Police		Powell	Margaret	28	02	1891	Theft of meat	T	Margaret Powell was charged with the theft of a beef steak valued at 8d from James White. She was found guilty and sentenced to 7 days with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. It seems likely that she had a child aged about 12 months old; the child was to be sent to the workhouse for 7 days pending further enquiries.	1891/021a
Justices		Brooks Brooks	Walt Walter	28	02	1891	Non-payment	N	Distress warrants issued against Walt Brooks and Walter Brooks for non-payment (possibly of the poor rate, see cases 1890/114h and 1890/114i) were returned. Neither provided evidence of goods that could be distrained and sold to contribute to the outstanding balances.	1891/021b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Bennett	James	28	02	1891	Non-payment	N	The distress warrant which had been issued against James Bennett was ordered to be remitted, possibly because Bennett had cleared the outstanding debt. It is not clear what Bennett's outstanding debt may have been for; there is reference to an outstanding debt for a William Bennett for which a distress warrant was issued (see case 1890/146) and this debt was recorded as discharged in December 1890.	1891/021c
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the City of Wells, charged various individuals with having failed to pay the general district rate set on 20 October 1890. The individuals involved and the amounts outstanding are shown separately in the succeeding entries. Note: some individuals shown on Jenkins' list of debtors did not receive a summons to attend a hearing because they had made payment before the summons were issued. These individuals and the amounts involved are as follows: - Walter Cole owed 7/2d - William House owed 7/6d - Charles Wickham owed 9/- - Mr Wellsford owed 16/8d - George Bartlett owed 14/2d - Office of Works owed £9.8s.9d.	1891/022
Jenkins	William Henry	Connock	Frederick	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Frederick Connock of New Street was noted as owing 9/2d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 11/8d. Connock was recorded as having paid 4/-. He was given until 1 May to discharge the remaining debt. If Connock failed to clear the debt by this date, a distress order would be issued to recover the outstanding monies and, as a result, Connock would incur further costs of 5/6d. Note: the summary list of debts appears to record Connock as having paid 9/2d, although the date of this entry is not evident.	1891/022a
Jenkins	William Henry	Burridge	Charles	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Charles Burridge of Union Street was shown as owing 12/3d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 14/9d. Burridge was granted until 1 May to pay off the debt. If he failed to clear the debt by this date a distress order would be issued to recover the outstanding monies and Burridge would also incur further costs amounting to 5/6d.	1891/022b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Lucas	Mrs	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Mrs Lucas of Union Street was shown as owing 3/6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 6/- . Mrs Lucas was recorded as being excused the payment of this debt.	1891/022c
Jenkins	William Henry	Clayton	Sarah Frances	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Sarah Frances Clayton of The Vista was recorded as owing £6.18s.4d for the general district rate and 2/6d for costs making a total of £7.0s.10d. This sum was shown as being received in full on 12 March 1891.	1891/022d
Jenkins	William Henry	Brooks	Walter	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Walter Brooks of High Street was noted as owing £1.8s.1d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs making a total of £1.10s.7d. Brooks was required to pay off the debt 'forthwith'. Failure to do so would result in the issuing of a distress order to recover the debt and this would lead to further costs amounting to 5/6d. Note: the summary list of debts appears to show receipt of the sum of 30/-.	1891/022e
Jenkins	William Henry	Ball	Frederick	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Frederick Ball of Mill Pond Lane was noted as owing 10/3d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 12/9d. Ball was given until 1 May to pay off the debt. If he failed to clear the debt by this date a distress order would be issued to recover the monies outstanding and, as a result of this order, further costs amounting to 5/6d would be incurred.	1891/022f
Jenkins	William Henry	Brooks	Walt	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Walt Brooks of Broad Street was recorded as owing £2.18s.1d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £3.0s.7d. Brooks was ordered to pay off the debt 'forthwith'. If he failed to do so, a distress order would be initiated to recover the debt which would also be increased by further costs amounting to 5/6d.	1891/022g
Jenkins	William Henry	Bown	John	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	John Bown of Broad Street was shown as owing 17/1d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 19/7d. The sum of 10/- was recorded as received and Bown was given until 1 April to pay off the remaining debt. If Bown failed to clear the debt by this date, a distress order would be issued to recover the outstanding monies and, as a result, Bown would incur additional costs amounting to 5/6d.	1891/022h

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Jenkins	William Henry	Hatcher	Mrs	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Mrs Hatcher of Southover was shown as owing 5/10d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 8/4d. Mrs Hatcher appeared personally at the hearing and was given until 1 May to pay off the debt. If the debt was not cleared by this date, a distress order would be issued to recover the sum outstanding and, as a result, Mrs Hatcher would incur additional costs of 5/6d.	1891/022i
Jenkins	William Henry	Kenniston	Henry	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Henry Kenniston of Southover was noted as owing 3/4d for the general district rate with a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 5/10d.	1891/022j
Jenkins	William Henry	Evans	George	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George Evans of Southover was noted as owing 18/4d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.0s.10d. The summons shows the sum of 10/- received but also has the entry 'month', perhaps suggesting that Evans was given one month in which to pay the remainder. The summary list of debtors shows the sum of 19/3d as paid against Evans' name.	1891/022k
Jenkins	William Henry	Chappell	William	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Chappell of Southover was recorded as owing 7/6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 10/-. The summons has a separate entry showing '8/- including costs' and a further entry indicating '1st week in April', perhaps indicating that Chappell had been granted a reduction in his rate assessment and given a longer period within which to pay.	1891/022l
Jenkins	William Henry	Hutchinson	Richard	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Richard Hutchinson of Southover was noted as owing 6/8d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 9/2d. Hutchinson was required to pay this sum 'forthwith'. Failure to do so would result in the issue of a distress order to try and recover the outstanding sum and, as a result, Hutchinson would incur further costs amounting to 5/6d.	1891/022m
Jenkins	William Henry	Isgrove	John	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	John Isgrove of Priory Place was shown as owing 12/6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 15/-. Isgrove was excused from paying the entire sum.	1891/022n

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Jenkins	William Henry	Salvidge	William	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Salvidge of St Cuthbert Street was shown as owing 15/10d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 18/4d. Salvidge was given until the end of the month to pay the debt. If he failed to clear the debt in this time, a distress order would be issued to recover the outstanding monies and, as a result, Salvidge would incur further costs of 5/6d.	1891/022o
Jenkins	William Henry	Clyst	Gabriel	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Gabriel Clyst of No 4 New Town was shown as owing £1.5s.7d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.8s.1d. Clyst was recorded as having paid 15/- and was granted until 1 April to pay the remainder. If Clyst failed to pay off the debt by this date, a distress order would be issued to recover the outstanding monies and, as a result, Clyst would incur further costs of 5/6d.	1891/022p
Jenkins	William Henry	Batey	Thomas	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George Batey of Tucker Street was shown as owing 2/11d for the general district rate and 2/6d in costs making a total of 5/5d. This sum was recorded as being received.	1891/022q
Jenkins	William Henry	Perry	James	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	James Perry of Tucker Street was recorded as owing 7/9d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 10/3d. Perry was given until 1 May to discharge the debt. If he failed to pay the debt by this date, a distress order would be issued in order to recover the outstanding monies and, as a consequence, Perry would incur further costs of 5/6d.	1891/022r
Jenkins	William Henry	Donati	T W	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	T W Donati of Portway was shown as owing £1.16s.9d for the general district rate and 2/6d in costs making a total of £1.19s.3d. The full sum was recorded as being paid.	1891/022s
Jenkins	William Henry	Hawkins jnr	James	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	James Hawkins the younger of St Thomas Street was shown as owing 10/4d for the general district rate and 2/6d for costs making a total of 12/10d. The sum of 10/4d was noted as received leaving a balance still to be paid but the costs were waived and the account considered as settled.	1891/022t
Jenkins	William Henry	Standard	Thomas	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Thomas Standard of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 5/10d for the general district rate and 2/6d in costs making a total of 8/4d. This sum was recorded as being received.	1891/022u

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Jenkins	William Henry	Ridley	John	04	03	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	John Ridley of St Thomas Street was noted as owing 6/8d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 9/2d. He was given until 1 May in order to clear the debt. Note: the summons incorrectly shows the amount owing for the district rate to be 5/8d, but there is a pencilled amendment to show the correct amount of 6/8d.	1891/022v
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, prepared a list of parents who, over the recent months, had failed to ensure that their child / children had attended school sufficiently often as required by the law. The individuals involved, the children affected and details of their attendance are given in the succeeding entries. It appears that prosecutions were not pursued in all instances as only some of the parents on this list are brought to court for a hearing (see case 1891/024 and its subsidiary entries). However, the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 19 March (see case 1891/030) appear to show that all the cases mentioned here were actually heard at that time.	1891/023
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burridge	Charles	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, recorded that Frederick Burridge, aged 11, son of Charles Burridge of Union Street, had only made 31 attendances in the last 5 months while the school had been open for 170 attendances. Frederick Burridge had passed standard I.	1891/023a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, recorded that John Edwards, aged 8, son of George Edwards of South Street, had only made 4 attendances in the last 4 months while the school had been open for 130 attendances. John Edwards was recorded as not having passed any standard.	1891/023b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	L S Cooke, principal teacher at Wells Central Infants School, recorded that Alfred Edwards, aged 5, son of George Edwards of South Street, had made no attendances in the last 3 months while the school had been open for 124 attendances. Alfred Edwards was recorded as not having passed any standard.	1891/023c

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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Marsh	Silas	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, recorded that Frederick Marsh, aged 7, son of Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings, had only made 10 attendances in the last 2 months while the school had been open for 65 attendances. Frederick Marsh was recorded as not having passed any standard.	1891/023d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Marsh	Silas	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, recorded that Henry Marsh, aged 9, son of Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings, had only made 6 attendances in the last month while the school had been open for 26 attendances. Henry Marsh was recorded as having passed standard II.	1891/023e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Marsh	Silas	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, recorded that Ethel Marsh, aged 12, daughter of Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings, had only made 43 attendances in the last 5 months while the school had been open for 140 attendances. Ethel Marsh was recorded as having passed standard III.	1891/023f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, recorded that James Perry, aged 10, son of James Perry of Tucker Street, had only made 35 attendances in the last 2 months while the school had been open for 65 attendances. James Perry the younger was recorded as having fully passed standard III. The case against James Perry the elder was adjourned for one month to determine if the child's attendance record improved. At the adjourned hearing on 9 April James Perry was fined 5/-.	1891/023g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bowell	Sydenham	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, recorded that William Bowell, aged 12, son of Sydenham Bowell of Southover, had only made 14 attendances in the last 5 months while the school had been open for 161 attendances. William Bowell was recorded as having passed standard I. Bowell's wife appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned for one month. At the hearing on 9 April Sydenham Bowell was discharged because he had ensured better attendance from his son.	1891/023h

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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bennett	Joseph	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, recorded that Joseph Bennett, aged 9, son of Joseph Bennett of St John Street, had only made 22 attendances in the last 2 months while the school had been open for 65 attendances. Joseph Bennett the younger was recorded as having passed standard II. Bennett's wife appeared at the hearing. The case was adjourned for one month pending the production of a (doctor's?) certificate. At the adjourned hearing on 9 April Joseph Bennett was fined 3/6d. Note: some documents in the case show the father's name as James Bennett, but the summons has James Bennett struck through and replaced by Joseph Bennett.	1891/023i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bennett	Joseph	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	There is no attendance document for Harriet Bennett, aged 7, daughter of James Bennett of St John Street. Harriet Bennett was recorded as not having passed any standard. Bennett's wife attended the hearing. The case was adjourned for one month pending the production of a (doctor's?) certificate. At the adjourned hearing on 9 April Joseph Bennett was fined 3/6d. Note: some documents in this case show the father's name as James Bennett, but the summons has James Bennett struck through and replaced by Joseph Bennett.	1891/023j
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Charlotte	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, recorded that Tom Stokes, aged 12, in the care of Mrs Charlotte Allen of Mill Pond Lane, had made no attendances in the last 2 months while the school had been open for 65 attendances. Tom Stokes was recorded as having fully passed standard II. Charlotte Allen appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned for one month to determine if the child's attendance improved. At the adjourned hearing on 9 April Charlotte Allen was discharged.	1891/023k

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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Woolford	George	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central School, recorded that William Woolford, aged 10, son of George Woolford of Silver Street, had made only 21 attendances in the last 2 months while the school had been open for 65 attendances. William Woolford was recorded as having passed standard II. Woolford's wife appeared at the hearing. The case was adjourned for one month to determine if the child's attendance improved and to allow an application to Mr Thatcher (relieving officer?). At the adjourned hearing on 9 April George Woolford was discharged.	1891/023l
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Walter	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, recorded that Elizabeth Coles, aged 11, daughter of William Cole of Southover, had only made 13 attendances in the last month while the school had been open for 26 attendances. Elizabeth Coles was recorded as having passed standard IV. Note: the surname of the parent is given as 'Cole', while the daughter's surname is consistently given as 'Coles'.	1891/023m
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, recorded that Matilda White, aged 10, daughter of Joseph White of Mill Pond Lane, had only made 5 attendances in the last month while the school had been open for 26 attendances. Matilda White was recorded as not having passed any standard.	1891/023n
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, recorded that Mary Ann White, aged 8, daughter of Joseph White of Mill Pond Lane, had only made 23 attendances in the last 3 months while the school had been open for 82 attendances. Mary Ann White was recorded as not having passed any standard.	1891/023o
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Keniston	Henry	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, recorded that Rose Keniston, aged 11, daughter of Henry Keniston of Southover, had only made 56 attendances in the last 5 months while the school had been open for 140 attendances. Rose Keniston was recorded as having passed standard I.	1891/023p

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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School Attendance Committee		Various		04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	The School Attendance Committee complained that a number of parents had not ensured that their children attended school sufficiently frequently as required by law. The parents concerned and the outcome of the cases are shown in the succeeding entries.	1891/024
School Attendance Committee		Burridge	Charles	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Charles Burridge of Union Street was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Frederick, attended school sufficiently often. Burridge had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for Frederick's non-attendance. Burridge's wife attended the hearing and the case was dismissed on the grounds of illness (presumably of the child).	1891/024a
School Attendance Committee		Keniston	Henry	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Keniston of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Rose, attended school sufficiently often. Keniston had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for Rose's non-attendance. Keniston's wife attended the hearing and the case was dismissed but an order was given for the child to attend school.	1891/024b
School Attendance Committee		White	Joseph	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Mill Pond Lane was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Matilda, attended school sufficiently often. White had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for Matilda's non-attendance. White's wife attended the hearing. An order was given for the child to attend school on every occasion that it was open.	1891/024c
School Attendance Committee		White	Joseph	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Mill Pond Lane was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Mary Ann, attended school sufficiently often. White had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for Mary Ann's non-attendance. White's wife attended the hearing. An order was given for the child to attend school on every occasion that it was open.	1891/024d
School Attendance Committee		Cole	Walter	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Walter Cole of Southover was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Elizabeth, attended school sufficiently often. Cole had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for Elizabeth's non-attendance. Cole's wife attended the hearing and the case was dismissed.	1891/024e

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School Attendance Committee		Edwards	George	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of South Street was charged with failing to ensure that his son, John, attended school sufficiently often. Edwards had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for John's non-attendance. George Edwards was fined 5/-.	1891/024f
School Attendance Committee		Edwards	George	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of South Street was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Alfred, attended school sufficiently often. Edwards had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for Alfred's non-attendance. The case against George Edwards was dismissed.	1891/024g
School Attendance Committee		Marsh	Silas	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings was charged with failing to ensure that his daughter, Ethel, attended school sufficiently often. Marsh had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for Ethel's non-attendance. The case was adjourned from March to 9 April. Silas Marsh personally attended the hearing and was discharged by the justices.	1891/024h
School Attendance Committee		Marsh	Silas	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Frederick, attended school sufficiently often. Marsh had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for Frederick's non-attendance. The case was adjourned from March to 9 April. Silas Marsh personally attended the hearing and was discharged by the justices.	1891/024i
School Attendance Committee		Marsh	Silas	04	03	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings was charged with failing to ensure that his son, Henry, attended school sufficiently often. Marsh had already received an earlier warning on this matter and there appeared to be no reasonable excuse for Henry's non-attendance. The case was adjourned from March to 9 April. Silas Marsh personally attended the hearing and was discharged by the justices.	1891/024j
Vincent	John	Richards	Sidney Tom	07	03	1891	Non-payment of wages	N	John Vincent of Southover, mason, complained that he had carried out work for Sidney Tom Richards of High Street, builder, on 14, 16 and 17 February 1891 but had not been paid. The amount owing was put at 9/9 1/2d	1891/025

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Justices				12	03	1891	Change of date for petty sessions sitting	*	As no magistrates were available for the session scheduled for 12 March the sitting of the petty sessions court was moved to 19 March.	1891/026
Salmon	Henry L	Various		12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon, one of the overseers of the poor rate for the In Parish of St Cuthbert, complained that various individuals had not paid the poor rate set on 23 December 1890. There were also other individuals who were still in arrears for poor rates that had been set earlier. The individuals concerned and the amounts involved are set out in the succeeding entries.	1891/027
Salmon	Henry L	Standard	Thomas	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Thomas Standard of St Thomas Street was shown as owing 4/8d for the poor rate and 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/2d. The account was recorded as settled (but the amount received noted as 4/8d).	1891/027a
Salmon	Henry L	Brooks	Walt	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Walt Brooks of Broad Street was shown as owing 11/4d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 13/10d. A distress order was to be issued to try and recover the debt. On 2 April the distress order was returned showing that there were no goods that could be sold to defray the debt (nulla bone) and an order committing Brooks to prison was then issued.	1891/027b
Salmon	Henry L	Isgrove	John	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	John Isgrove of Priory Place was shown as owing 5/- for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/6d. The justices determined that Isgrove should be excused from payment, but no reason for the decision was noted.	1891/027c
Salmon	Henry L	Salvidge	William	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Salvidge of St Cuthbert Street was recorded as owing 6/4d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 8/10d. Salvidge was to pay 2/6d the following day otherwise a distress order was to be issued to try and recover the debt.	1891/027d
Salmon	Henry L	Clist	Gabriel	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Gabriel Clist of Newtown was noted as owing 5/- for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/6d.	1891/027e
Salmon	Henry L	Bedford	Walter	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Walter Bedford of Priest Row was shown as owing 2/8d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 5/2d. The sum of 5/2d was recorded as received.	1891/027f
Salmon	Henry L	Hawkins jnr	James	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	James Hawkins the younger of Dells Court in St Thomas Street was shown as owing 1/4d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 3/10d. The account was noted as being settled.	1891/027g

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Salmon	Henry L	Marshall	Frederick	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Frederick Marshall of Montrose, Weston near Bath, gardener (to Rev. Thompson), was shown as owing 1/2d for the poor rate and a further 3/6d in costs (including an additional sum of 1/- for serving the summons) making a total of 4/8d. The sum of 4/8d was recorded as received.	1891/027h
Salmon	Henry L	Haskins	John	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	John Haskins of St Cuthbert Street was shown as owing 2/8d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d in costs. Haskins was instructed to pay the outstanding debt by Saturday otherwise a distress order was to be issued to try and recover the money.	1891/027i
Salmon	Henry L	Ivins	Henry	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry Ivins of Woodcock Hill in the parish of St Briavels in Gloucestershire, harness maker, was recorded as owing 9/11d for the poor rate set on 20 May 1887 and a further 3/6d for costs (including an additional sum of 1/- for serving the summons) making a total of 13/5d. A distress order was to be issued to try and recover the debt.	1891/027j
Salmon	Henry L	Harris	Thomas	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Thomas Harris of The Eagle Tavern in Newtown, Upper Norwood, Surrey, innkeeper, was shown as owing £1.14s.3d for the poor rate set on 20 November 1887 and a further 3/6d in costs (including an additional 1/- for serving the summons) making a total of £1.17s.9d. Harris evidently responded to the summons that was served on him by writing to the police in Peckham (although this document is not on file) and enclosing 1/- in stamps; the police responded by asking for a further 6d to be remitted. It is not evident what happened to the outstanding debt.	1891/027k
Salmon	Henry L	Stokes	Mrs	12	03	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mrs Stokes of St Thomas Street was shown as owing 5/10d for the poor rate set on 20 May 1890 and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 8/4d. The case against Mrs Stokes was dismissed.	1891/027l
Stokes Isgrove	Mrs John			19	03	1891	Poor rate relief application	Rr	Mrs Stokes of St Thomas Street and John Isgrove of Priory Place submitted separate applications to obtain relief from having to pay the poor rate. The assessed rate for Mrs Stokes was 5/10d while that for John Isgrove was 5/-. The churchwardens and overseers of the poor granted both applications.	1891/028
Justices				19	03	1891	Schedule of petty sessions sittings	*	This is a list of dates for petty sessions sittings for 1891/92. The mayor is to attend each of the meetings or make arrangements for another justice to take his place. Against each meeting date is the name of a justice, possibly intended as the mayor's alternate.	1891/029

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		19	03	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Summary minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 19 March 1891. The entries cover the cases involving non-payment of the general district rate (cases 1891/022a to 1891/022v), non-payment of the poor rate (cases 1891/027a to 1891/027l) and failure to ensure child attended school (cases 1891/023a to 1891/023p and cases 1891/024a to 1891/024j).	1891/030
Godfrey	Frederick Henry	Miller	Frederick	24	03	1891	Assault	A	Frederick Henry Godfrey, innkeeper, complained that he had been assaulted on 21 March by Frederick Miller of Priest Row, labourer. Miller pleaded not guilty to the charge and subsequently filed a countersuit against Godfrey (see case 1891/039). The minutes of the petty session sitting of 9 April (see case 1891/40) contain considerable detail of the evidence of both men. Essentially, Miller, who was apparently lodging in Godfrey's inn, became inebriated one evening and began molesting a young woman. Godfrey intervened and this resulted in him and Miller struggling and rolling on the floor. Gpdfrey claimed that he had been struck several times by Miller, but this was denied by Miller. The justices discussed both cases at the same time and required each man to pay 3/6d in costs.	1891/031
Hansford	Edward	Watts	Arthur	31	03	1891	Using obscene language	Pr	PC Hansford charged Arthur Watts of Priest Row with using obscene language in High Street on 26 March. He called Ernest Collins of St John Street and Gilbert Coles of High Street to give evidence for the prosecution.	1891/032
Knight	James	Rolls	Joseph	31	03	1891	Drunk and disorderly Assault Assault on police officer	D A A	Police serjeant Knight was called to The King's Head at 7.00pm on Saturday 28 March to deal with a disturbance. He found Joseph Rolls drunk, using very bad language and refusing to leave the premises. According to the barmaid, Lilly Cheek, she had been assaulted by Rolls and her allegation was supported by Harriet Coles, wife of the innkeeper, and her son, Guilbert Coles, who had been struggling with Rolls when police serjeant Knight arrived. Knight decided to arrest Rolls and take him to the police station but Rolls proved to be both intransigent and violent, kicking Knight several times on the legs. Rolls was fined 5/- including costs for the assault on Lilly Cheek and a further 5/- including costs for the assault on police serjeant Knight; the charge of drunkenness appeared not to attract a fine and the defendant was discharged.	1891/033

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Luke	Henry	Lane Paul	Henry Henry	01	04	1891	Affray	Af	Police serjeant Henry Luke charged Henry Lane of Tor Street, upholsterer, and Henry Paul of St John Street, carpenter, with making an affray in Tor Street on 21 March. Luke also called Walter Boyce of Tor Street and Henry Bendall of St Thomas Street to provide evidence for the prosecution while Henry Lane summoned Mary Boyce of Tor Street, wife of William Boyce, to testify for the defence. Lane had apparently been standing outside his house in Tor Street and had been talking to Walter Boyce and to Mary Boyce. Henry Paul had then come running around the corner and deliberately knocked Lane down into the road, supposedly because he had called Paul's wife a whore. The two men fought on the ground with Paul on top, assisted by his wife. One of the neighbours sent for the police and when police serjeant Luke arrived Henry Lane was being held back by several bystanders and both he and Paul were bleeding around the face or nose. Luke was able to keep the combatants apart, although they continued to exchange verbal insults. Both were found guilty of making an affray and were ordered to pay 8/3d each to cover the costs of the case. Each of them was also bound over for 6 months in the sum of £10 to keep the peace, particularly towards each other. More details of the rather confusing testimony of various witnesses can be found in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 April (see case 1891/040).	1891/034
Luke	Henry	Lane	Mary	01	04	1891	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant Henry Luke charged Mary Lane of Tor Street with using obscene language in Tor Street on 21 March. Luke called Harry Bendall of St Thomas Street to provide evidence for the prosecution while Mary Lane called Phoebe James of St Thomas Street, wife of George James, to offer evidence for the defence. Mary Lane was found guilty of the offence and fined 11/- including costs.	1891/035
Hansford	Charles Edward	Attwood Snooks	William William	01	04	1891	Using obscene language	Pr	PC Edward Hansford charged William Attwood and William Snooks, both of St Thomas Street, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 24 March. Hansford called Henry Marshall of St Thomas Street to give evidence for the prosecution. Attwood pleaded guilty to the charge but Snooks offered a not guilty plea. Both men were found guilty and required to pay 7/6d each including costs. They were given 14 days within which to make the payments.	1891/036

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices				02	04	1891	Appointment of overseers of the poor	*	J H Salmon was appointed assistant overseer for the Liberty of St Andrew while P Abram and James Moon were appointed to other related roles in the Liberty. George Willcox was appointed assistant overseer for the In Parish of St Cuthbert while F B George and H Cox the younger were appointed to other related roles.	1891/037
Stevens	Frederick J	Wakeley	Herbert Victor	04	04	1891	Larceny	T	Frederick J Stevens of Town Hall Buildings, labourer, complained that Herbert Victor Wakeley, late of Wells, had stolen from him a silver watch, silver chain and silver locket with a total value of £1.15s.0d.	1891/038
Miller	Frederick	Godfrey	Frederick Henry	06	04	1891	Assault	A	Frederick Miller of Priest Row, labourer, alleged that he had been assaulted on 21 March by Frederick Henry Godfrey, innkeeper. Godfrey pleaded not guilty. This represents a countersuit to the earlier action brought against Miller by Godfrey (see case 1891/031 where more details of the events leading to both cases is shown and case 1891/040 where the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 April are recorded in considerable detail).	1891/039
Justices		Various		09	04	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of petty sessions sitting of 9 April. These minutes particularly cover the cases involving Godfrey v Miller (see cases 1891/031 and 1891/039), Lane and Paul (see case 1891/034), Mary Lane (see case 1891/035) and Attwood and Snooks (see case 1891/036).	1891/040
Nurse	Thomas Curry	Bendall	George	10	04	1891	Larceny	T	Thomas Curry Nurse, butcher, complained that George Bendall had stolen part of a dead fence, then being used as a fence, and valued at 1/-.	1891/041
Hudson	Thomas			13	04	1891	Licence transfer application	La	George Hudson applied to have the alcohol licence for The Hearts of Oak temporarily transferred to him from Mr Ham. The application was granted.	1891/042a
Police		Jones	William	13	04	1891	Vagrancy	V	William Jones was arrested on 11 April for attempting to operate as a pedlar but without a valid licence. He had been trying to sell buttons at No 27 Chamberlain Street. Jones pleaded guilty to the charge. He was fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. It was recorded that Jones went to prison.	1891/042b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Watts	Henry	Wooley	Mary Ann	14	04	1891	Using profane / obscene language	Pr	PC Henry Watts charged Mary Ann Wooley, charwoman, with using obscene language in Priory Road on 10 April. Edwin Schilling Collins of Priory Road was called as a witness for the prosecution. Mary Ann Wooley was heard to be shouting loudly in Priory Road at around 11.00pm using profane and obscene language. Her husband was trying to persuade her to be quiet and go home but, despite the intervention of PC Watts, she continued to cause a disturbance as she headed towards Coxley. Mary Ann Wooley was fined 14/- including costs, to be paid forthwith, or to serve 7 days in prison.	1891/043
Watts	Henry	Andow	George	14	04	1891	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Edward Hansford charged George Andow of St Thomas Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly on Cathedral Green. Henry John Crocker of Smith's Court, St Thomas Street was called as a witness for the prosecution. Andow pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs; it was recorded that he paid 5/- immediately.	1891/044
Watts	Henry	Andow Langford	George Thomas	14	04	1891	Using profane / obscene language	Pr	PC Henry Watts charged George Andow and Thomas Langford, both of St Thomas Street, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 13 April. Both men pleaded guilty to the charge and each was fined 10/- including costs.	1891/045

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hansford	Edward	Stevens Willis Lambert	Henry Harriet Thomas	14	04	1891	Using profane / obscene language	Pr	PC Edward Hansford charged Henry Stevens of South Street, labourer, Harriet Willis of Mill Lane and Thomas Lambert, labourer, with using obscene language in South Street on 12 April 1891. Frederick Parker of South Street and next door neighbour to Stevens, butcher, was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. PC Hansford stated that he had found Stevens and Willis shouting loudly and exchanging insults in the street in the early hours of Sunday morning using foul language to each other with Stevens becoming very mad. Hansford tried to intervene and keep them apart and to get Stevens to go back into his house, but was hampered by Lambert, thought to be Willis' partner, who pulled Hansford away on two occasions. Stevens pleaded guilty to the charge of using obscene language, but Willis and Lambert pleaded not guilty. Stevens and Willis were found guilty on this charge with Stevens being fined 10/- and Willis 5/-; both were also required to pay 5/2d in costs. The case against Lambert was dismissed but he was also charged with obstructing a police officer in the execution of his duty (see case 1891/047).	1891/046
Hansford	Edward	Lambert	Thomas	14	04	1891	Obstructing police in the execution of duty	Op	PC Edward Hansford charged Thomas Lambert, labourer, with obstructing him in the execution of his duty. Hansford had been trying to separate Henry Stevens and Harriet Willis who were arguing and shouting at each other in the street (see case 1891/046). However, on two occasions Lambert had grabbed him and tried to pull him away. Lambert was found guilty on this charge and fined 5/- with costs of 8/-; the sum of 13/- was recorded as paid.	1891/047
Scriven	Annie	Lewis	Stanley	14	04	1891	Threat of assault	A	Annie Scriven, wife of William Scriven of Union Street, butcher, complained that on 13 April Stanley Lewis of High Street, butcher, had threatened to cut her throat and to poison her. She believed that she might suffer bodily harm at his hands and asked that he be required to put forward sureties with respect to his future behaviour, especially towards her. In support of her case she called as witnesses John Banbury of Bristol, butcher, who was at that time lodging with the Scrivens, and Ted Stevens of South Street, butcher. Stanley Lewis filed a countersuit two days later (see case 1891/049).	1891/048

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Lewis	Stanley	Scriven	Annie	16	04	1891	Threat of assault	A	Stanley Lewis of High Street, butcher, complained that on 13 April Annie Scriven, wife of William Scriven of Union Street, butcher, had threatened to pour fire over him, dip his head in boiling water and punch his head. He claimed that he feared to suffer bodily harm at her hands and asked that she be required to put forward sureties with respect to her future behaviour, particularly towards him. This case was clearly initiated in response to a similar case against him being pursued by Annie Scriven (see case 1891/048).	1891/049
Police		Barnes	Ann	16	04	1891	Drunkenness	D	Ann Barnes was charged with being drunk in High Street. She pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- with costs of 3/6d or to spend 7 days in prison. It was noted that she had two children who were in Wells workhouse.	1891/050a
Wickenden	Mr			16	04	1891	Licence extension application	La	Mr Wickenden applied to extend his alcohol licence to 11.00pm on the following Tuesday in order to host the Fire Brigade dinner. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1891/050b
Knight	James	Hodges	Isaac	21	04	1891	Vagrancy	V	On 21 April police serjeant Knight had found Isaac Hodges sitting on an iron seat on the east side of the Bishop's Palace moat with a band twisted tightly around his neck; his face was very discoloured. Knight undid the band and asked what Hodges was trying to do. Hodges explained that he was tired of his life. Dr Purnell examined Hodges and signed a certificate, as did Mr Thatcher, the relieving officer for Wells. Hodges had no money on him and it appears likely that he was sent to the Wells Union, although this is not expressly stated. The costs of the case were recorded as £1.5s.0d, including Dr Purnell's fee of £1.1s.0d.	1891/051
Gardner	James	Woodburn	Joseph	22	04	1891	Absent from work without prior agreement	Ab	James Gardner of Chamberlain Street, painter, complained that Joseph Woodburn of Tor Street, carpenter, had absented himself from the employment of Gardner without prior agreement on 20, 21 and 22 April. In compensation Gardner claimed the sum of £5.	1891/052
Justices		Various		23	04	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 23 April. The cases covered include Stevens/Willis/Lambert, George Andow and Thomas Langford, and Mary Ann Wooley (see cases 1891/046, 1891/045 and 1891/043).	1891/053

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Martin Gratton	William William	27	04	1891	Begging / vagrancy Drunk and disorderly	V D	William Martin was initially arrested for hawking without a licence. He appears to have pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison. William Gratton was charged with begging but pleaded not guilty, claiming that he had a letter signed by someone called H P Denison. Possibly on a subsequent day Martin and Gratton were seen in the Market Place by PC Hansford. He described both of them as being staggering drunk and they appeared to be disrupting a Salvation Army meeting. They then staggered off down High Street where they began arguing with each other about Gratton's certificate which he claimed that Martin had taken from him. This led to them fighting each other in Guardhouse Lane where they were arrested by police serjeant Luke for being drunk and disorderly. Each of them was fined 5/- with costs of 2/6d, the alternative being 7 days in prison with hard labour.	1891/054
Police		Gratton	William	28	04	1891	Begging	V	William Gratton had been remanded for a period on a charge of begging on 25 April for which he had pleaded not guilty (see also case 1891/054). He was found guilty and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet gaol.	1891/055
Damerel	Samuel	Loxton	Richmond	28	04	1891	Breach of local bye-laws	Br	Samuel Damerel, caretaker of Wells Recreation Ground, complained that on 25 April Richmond Loxton of Silver Street had used indecent or improper language in breach of the local bye-laws pertaining to the use of the Wells Recreation Ground. Loxton had been demanding to know what rights the Bishop had to graze sheep in the grounds and when he didn't like Damerel's response he had threatened to knock his brains out and used extremely bad language in uttering this threat. Loxton was fined 10/- including costs and was given until midday on Saturday to make the payment.	1891/056
Luke	Henry	Banbury	John	30	04	1891	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Henry Luke charged John Banbury of Union Street, butcher, with being drunk in Union Street on 23 April. Banbury had been drinking in The King's Head and had been seen to fall down several times in Union Street. Banbury pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1891/057

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Francis	Harriett	30	04	1891	Drunkenness	D	Harriett Francis, wife of Robert Francis of Yarley Hill, was charged with being drunk in a public place on 29 April after she was found lying in the street in Portway with her legs in the road. She was ordered to pay the case costs of 3/6d by Saturday or she would have to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet gaol.	1891/058
Baker	Elizabeth	Coles	Gilbert	01	05	1891	Bastardy	B	Elizabeth Baker of St Cuthbert Street, single woman, alleged that Gilbert Coles of High Street was the father of her daughter born out of wedlock on 29 March 1891. The date for the hearing was set as 14 May 1891. Note: Gilbert Coles appears to have been the son of the innkeeper of The King's Head in High Street.	1891/059
Collins	Samuel Henry	Bray	Frederick	06	05	1891	Owning an unlicensed dog	DI	Samuel Henry Collins, an officer of the Inland Revenue (Excise), claimed that Frederick Bray of St Thomas Street was the owner of a dog for which he did not hold a valid licence. Bray was found guilty of the offence and ordered to pay the sum of 9/6d which included the costs of the case. This sum was recorded as paid.	1891/060
Collins	Samuel Henry	Brooks	Walt	06	05	1891	Owning an unlicensed dog	DI	Samuel Henry Collins, an officer of the Inland Revenue (Excise), claimed that Walt Brooks of Broad Street was the owner of a dog for which he did not hold a valid licence. Brooks claimed that he had only had the dog a short time and when Collins returned a few weeks later Brooks said that he had got rid of the dog. However, one week afterwards Collins had seen the dog again on Brooks' premises. Brooks was found guilty of the offence and ordered to pay the sum of £1 which included the costs of the case. Note: there is an entry on the cover of the case documentation that states '9/- paid by Excise'.	1891/061
Collins	Samuel Henry	Brooks	Walter	06	05	1891	Owning an unlicensed dog	DI	Samuel Henry Collins, an officer of the Inland Revenue (Excise), claimed that Walter Brooks of High Street was the owner of a dog for which he did not hold a valid licence. Brooks was found guilty of the offence and ordered to pay a fine of £1.5s.0d plus costs of 11/- making a total of £1.16s.0d. Note: there is an entry on the cover of the case documentation that states '9/- paid by Excise'.	1891/062

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Barr	Harriet	08	05	1891	Administration of conveyancing documents	*	This document lists a schedule of deeds relating to a property at Wookey belonging to Mrs Harriet Barr. It begins with reference to an abstract of title from 1843 followed by a series of conveyances between 1863 and 1889. These deeds were deposited with the town clerk as a security on a recognizance and returned to Ellen Barr on 8th May when the time period of the conveyance expired.	1891/063
Perry	John	Hatcher	Alfred	11	05	1891	Refusing to leave licensed premises	L	John Perry, innkeeper of The Golden Heart in St John Street, complained that on 5 May Alfred Hatcher of Southover, labourer, had become noisy, quarrelsome and disruptive on his premises. When Ellen Perry, wife of John Perry, the landlord, had requested that he leave, Hatcher had refused to go, in contravention of the licensing regulations. Hatcher pleaded not guilty but Ellen Perry pointed out that Hatcher had got into an argument with another customer and there had been an exchange of blows. Hatcher was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1891/064
Police		Davis	Caroline	12	05	1891	Larceny	T	Caroline Davis, wife of George Davis of St Thomas Street, was charged with having stolen a leather purse containing £9.10s.0d in coin from the person of Simon Simmons on 11 May. Caroline Davis was granted bail against a bond of £5 put forward by herself and a further £5 put forward by her husband, George Davis. The hearing was set for 19 May.	1891/065
Justices		Various		14	05	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 May covering several of the cases described earlier. Relevant information is included with those cases.	1891/066
Ham	Mr	Hudson	George	14	05	1891	Licence transfer application	La	Mr Ham applied to transfer the alcohol licence for The Hearts of Oak to George Hudson. The transfer was approved on payment of 30/-. Note: there is no separate document for this application. It is shown only as the first entry in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 May 1891 (see case 1891/066).	1891/067

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Simmons	Simon	Davis	Caroline	19	05	1891	Larceny	T	Simon Simmons accused Caroline Davis of stealing his leather purse containing £9 in sovereigns and 10/- in silver. Simmons had been in the public house run by George Davis and his wife and stated that he had only drunk one pint of beer. When he came to pay he claimed that he only had 21/2d on his person. Simmons then stated that Caroline Davis had put her hand in his pocket and drawn out his leather purse (in addition, he later admitted to having more cash in his other pocket). He had asked her not to open it because it contained something valuable. At this point he appears to have gone off to his daughter's house around 50 yards away to relieve himself (leaving the purse in the possession of Caroline Davis?). When he returned he expected her to give him the purse, but she stated that she did not have it. Her version of events was that, after she had taken the purse from his pocket, Simmons had retaken it from her and put it back in his pocket. Caroline Davis' daughter-in-law, Rose Davis, had been on the premises for a short period during these events, but stated that she had not seen Caroline Davis in possession of Simmons' wallet and that on his return Simmons had asked Caroline Davis to prepare him some fried eggs. In the absence of clear and compelling evidence the justices dismissed the case against Caroline Davis.	1891/068
Luke	Henry	Godfrey	Frederick Henry	21	05	1891	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Henry Luke charged Frederick Henry Godfrey, innkeeper of The Nag's Head in Sadler Street, with being drunk in a public place on 16 May. Luke found the defendant in Union Street and established that he was so drunk after a visit to Glastonbury and Wedmore he was unable to stand without assistance. Luke escorted Godfrey back to his home in Sadler Street and left him in the care of his wife. Godfrey was found guilty and fined 2/6d with costs of 8/- or, in the event of default, to serve 14 days in prison.	1891/069

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hansford	Charles Edward	White	John	21	05	1891	Furious driving	Rd	PC Hansford charged John White of Glastonbury, butcher, with driving a horse and waggon at excessive speed along St Thomas Street to the danger of pedestrians and other road users. Hansford summoned three residents of St Thomas Street to provide evidence for the prosecution, namely, William Wickham, Isaac John Francis and Frederick Bray. White denied that he had been driving too fast but was found guilty and ordered to pay the sum of £1.5s.0d, which included costs of £1.1s.0d. Note: the initial case documentation referred to Thomas White, but this was subsequently changed to refer to John White.	1891/070
Bown	Misses			23	05	1891	Licence extension application	La	The Misses Bown applied for a one-hour extension of their alcohol licence in order to host the football club dinner. The request was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1891/071
Police		Mead	John	01	06	1891	Begging in the street	V	John Mead was charged with begging in Sadler Street on 30 May. He was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour at Shepton Mallet.	1891/072
Hansford	Charles Edward	Price Price Taylor Fry Allen Witcombe Allen Haskins Haskins	Charles James John William Herbert Frederick Arthur Thomas George	01	06	1891	Playing football in the street	H	PC Hansford charged the following youths all of St Thomas Street with playing football in the street in contravention of the Highways Act: - Charles Price - James Price - John Taylor - William Fry - Herbert Allen - Frederick Witcombe - Arthur Allen - Thomas Haskins - George Haskins. PC Hansford called Ernest Cardwell of St Thomas Street as a witness for the prosecution. All the defendants pleaded guilty to the charge. The case was dismissed by the justices.	1891/073

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	02	06	1891	Absconding from workhouse	Ab	The management of the Wells Union workhouse complained that Thomas Henry Hucker had absconded from the workhouse on 27 May and again on 31 May. Hucker had been admitted to the workhouse for a 4-day period on 26 May but had absconded on the following day before 10.30am. He had then been re-admitted to the workhouse on 30 May for a further 4-day period but had absconded on the following day by climbing over two walls. The police were notified of his disappearance and he was arrested in St John Street. Hucker pleaded guilty to the offence on 27 May but not guilty to the subsequent offence. He was found guilty and sentenced to 3 months in prison with hard labour. Note: Hucker had previous convictions for a similar offence (see 1890/067 and 1890/152).	1891/074
Miller	Frederick	Lambert	Thomas	04	06	1891	Theft of necktie pin	T	Frederick Miller of The Crown Inn, labourer, claimed that Thomas Lambert of Union Street, labourer, had stolen a silver necktie pin belonging to him on 14 May. The value of the pin was put at 2/6d. Miller called upon Thomas Cannon of Town Hall Buildings, tailor, to provide evidence in support of his case. The case against Lambert was subsequently dismissed. Note: the information about the dismissal is contained in the same document as the case against William Bartlett for begging (see case 1891/076).	1891/075
Knight	James	Bartlett	William	05	06	1891	Begging	V	Police serjeant James Knight charged William Bartlett with begging. Near the Bishop's Palace he had seen Bartlett approach various people holding out his hand and apparently asking for money. Knight had asked some of the people involved and they confirmed that Bartlett had asked for money. Bartlett admitted that he had been drinking. The case against Bartlett was dismissed.	1891/076
Police		Loxton	Charles	05	06	1891	Theft of money	T	Charles Loxton was charged with the theft of 1/- from the till of The Royal Oak earlier that same day. Loxton was found guilty and fined 5/-.	1891/077

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Sherston	John Davis	Standard	James	06	06	1891	Warrant for eviction	Ev	On 6 June Messrs Welch Son & Chubb had served notice on James Standard that John Davis Sherston of Evercreech wished to terminate the tenancy of the property at No 11 St John Street that Standard was renting from Sherston at a rent of 2/3d per week. The terms of the tenancy specified a weekly agreement meaning that Standard was allowed one full week plus the remainder of the week in which the notice was served before giving up the tenancy. When Standard had not given up the tenancy by 20 June a further notice was issued warning that a request for eviction would be put before the justices on 1 July. As Standard had not given up the property the eviction notice was duly served on 1 July. The justices granted Sherston possession of the property 22 days from the eviction notice on 1 July.	1891/078
Sherston	John Davis	Bennett	Joseph	06	06	1891	Warrant for eviction	Ev	On 6 June Messrs Welch Son & Chubb had served notice on Joseph Bennett that John Davis Sherston of Evercreech wished to terminate the tenancy of the property at No 13 St John Street that Bennett was renting from Sherston at a rent of 2/- per week. The terms of the tenancy specified a weekly agreement meaning that Bennett was allowed one full week plus the remainder of the week in which the notice was served before giving up the tenancy. When Bennett had not given up the tenancy by 20 June a further notice was issued warning that a request for eviction would be put before the justices on 1 July. As Bennett had not given up the property the eviction notice was duly served on 1 July. The justices granted Sherston possession of the property 22 days from the eviction notice on 1 July.	1891/079
Francis	Elizabeth	Francis	William	08	06	1891	Assault	A	Elizabeth Francis of Priest Row complained that she had been assaulted and beaten by her husband William Francis, also of Priest Row.	1891/080
Justices		Various		11	06	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Detailed minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 June. All the cases heard are shown separately in earlier entries except for a temporary transfer of the licence for The Bull's Head from Mr Parfitt to his wife (neither forename is given). The transfer was approved on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1891/081

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hansford	Charles Edward	Booth	Herbert	13	06	1891	Drunk in charge of a horse and trap	D	PC Hansford charged Herbert Booth of Holcombe, a brewer's traveller, with being drunk in charge of a horse and trap in Broad Street on 9 June. Samuel Morgan of High Street was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. The summons was served upon Booth by police serjeant Westcott of Kilmersdon.	1891/082
Francis	John	Francis Bowell	Ann Elizabeth	23	06	1891	Theft of trousers and waistcoat	T	John Francis of Southover, labourer, complained that Ann Francis, his wife, had stolen a pair of trousers and a waistcoat valued at 15/- and had passed them to Elizabeth Bowell, wife of Sydenham Bowell, and Thomas Joseph Clarke who, in turn, had pawned these items and given the money to Ann Francis. John Francis testified that he had been out selling potatoes on Saturday morning and when he returned home he found that his wife was in the house but distinctly tipsy. She had then disappeared and on Monday morning when he left the house she had not come back. He stated that this was not unusual because she had left home previously on several occasions when she had taken to drink. When he returned home after work on Monday he found that a pair of trousers and a waistcoat were missing and there was no sign of any forced entry to the premises. Arthur Weston Wheeler, manager of Wheeler's pawn shop in Priest Row, testified that he had advanced money to Elizabeth Bowell on a pair of trousers that John Francis identified as being his property. He had also advanced money to Thomas Joseph Clarke, a 13-year old boy, son of John Clarke of South Street, on a waistcoat also identified as being the property of John Francis. In both cases the money obtained from pawning the goods involved was passed to Ann Francis, although in the case of the waistcoat Ann Francis had Thomas Clarke use the money to pay off another debt and also gave him one penny for his trouble. Ann Francis admitted that she had pawned both items but considered that she had done nothing wrong. Elizabeth Bowell admitted pawning the trousers but also considered that she had not done anything wrong. The case against the two women appears to have been dismissed.	1891/083

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Coombs	Frederick	25	06	1891	Cruelty to a horse	C	<p>Police serjeant Knight charged Frederick Coombs of Glastonbury, labourer, with cruelty to a horse by working the animal when it was clearly in an unfit state. Knight summoned William Henry Brown of South Street, carpenter, to provide evidence for the prosecution. Frederick Coombs was the driver of the horse and waggon which was owned by his employer, Vernon Stephens, who was riding in the waggon when the police examined the horse.</p> <p>Coombs was fined 5/- with costs of 9/4d, although the case against his employer appears to have been dismissed (see case 1891/085 for more details and the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 1 July for extensive testimony (case 1891/086)).</p>	1891/084
Knight	James	Stephens	Vernon	25	06	1891	Cruelty to a horse	C	<p>Police serjeant Knight charged Vernon Stephens of Glastonbury, innkeeper, with cruelty to a horse by causing it to be worked when it was clearly in an unfit state. Vernon Stephens was the owner of the horse and he had been riding in the waggon it was drawing when it was examined by the police. Knight testified that the horse had a number of sores, several of which must have been present for at least 6 - 8 days. Frederick Coombs, the driver of the horse and an employee of Vernon Stephens, stated that Stephens had told him to use 'the black horse' for the trip to Wells but had not specified which black horse. He claimed that the horse had not been worked for 3 weeks and he had been tending to the horse's wounds 3 or 4 times a week. He also noted that he had made Vernon Stephens aware of the horse's condition and Stephens had actually helped him to harness the horse before they set off for Wells. He suggested that some of the sores had arisen in the course of the drive to Wells.</p> <p>The testimony of George Oram Webb, veterinary surgeon, was more ambivalent about the horse's condition than the statements from police officers Knight and Luke. His view was that the horse was not suited to heavy work, but with padding under the saddle it was fit enough for some light work. The case against Stephens, who pleaded not guilty, was dismissed.</p> <p>Note: the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 1 July contain detailed notes of the testimony of all parties involved in this case (see case 1891/086).</p>	1891/085

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Justices		Various		01	07	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 1 July. This contains particularly detailed testimony from the cases against Frederick Coombs (1891/084) and Vernon Stephens (1891/085) together with summary information about those against James Standard (1891/078) and Joseph Bennett (1891/079).	1891/086
Wells Poor Law Guardians		Baker	Caroline	06	07	1891	Wilful damage	Wd	Caroline Baker was charged with wilfully breaking 11 panes of glass in a property belonging to the Wells Poor Law Guardians. She pleaded guilty to the offence and was sentenced to one week in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1891/087
Police		Price	Edward James	06	07	1891	Hawking without a licence	V	Edward James Price was charged with hawking without a licence on 4 July. He pleaded guilty to the offence and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. The costs of the case were recorded as 11/4d.	1891/088
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		06	07	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, prepared a list of parents who, over the recent months, had failed to ensure that their child / children had attended school sufficiently often as required by the law. The individuals affected are listed in the subsequent entries.	1891/089
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Andow	George	06	07	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Edward Andow, aged 11, had only made 53 attendances in the last two months when the school was open for 71 attendances. Edward Andow had achieved standard IV. George Andow of St Thomas Street, the boy's father, was summoned to explain the reasons for his son's attendance record. George Andow was fined 2/6d; this was recorded as paid.	1891/089a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Guppy	Edwin	06	07	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Frank Guppy, aged 11, had only made 51 attendances in the last two months when the school was open for 71 attendances. Frank Guppy had achieved standard II. Edwin Guppy of St Thomas Street, the boy's father, was summoned to explain the reasons for his son's attendance record. Edwin Guppy was fined 2/6d; this was recorded as paid.	1891/089b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Tucker	Charles A	08	07	1891	Unlit bicycle	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Tucker with riding a bicycle in Priory Road on 25 June between 10.00pm and 11.00pm (i.e. between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise) without displaying a light, thus endangering himself and other road users. Tucker was stopped by the police and warned that he needed a light on his bicycle, but he was not prepared to listen. When stopped for a second time after a visit to The Sherston Arms he threatened to go to police serjeant Knight with whom he claimed to be on friendly terms. The case against Tucker was dismissed with him paying the costs of 8/-.	1891/090
Bisgood	John	Allen	Charlotte	08	07	1891	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charlotte Allen of Mill Lane with being drunk and disorderly in Mill Lane on 4 July. Charlotte Allen pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- with costs of 8/- to be paid forthwith; these sums were recorded as paid.	1891/091
Parfitt	Amelia			09	07	1891	Licence transfer application	La	Amelia Parfitt applied for the alcohol licence for The Bull's Head to be transferred into her name. The application was granted.	1891/092

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Russ	Alfred George	Moore	George	11	07	1891	Failure to pay costs of maintenance order	Mo	On 7 October 1889 (see case 1889/116) George Moore, mason, was ordered to pay 3/- per week towards the maintenance of his son, Alfred Edward Moore, described as an idiot, in Wells Union. George Moore was ordered to make this payment for as long as his son was unable to look after himself. Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, now brought a complaint that George Moore had not been making the necessary payments and, as a result, owed Wells Union the sum of £10.6s.0d. The hearing was initially set for 14 July but was adjourned to 13 August for the production of a medical certificate from Dr Fairbanks. At this hearing George Moore was adjudged to be liable for the outstanding sum of £10.6s.0d plus costs of 10/6d. He was ordered to pay the costs of 10/6d forthwith and to pay off the arrears at a rate of 1/- every week with the first payment being due on 27 August. Moore was still required to pay the sum of 3/- per week for the maintenance of his son as ordered in October 1889. Note: a document prepared by Frank Thatcher, receiving officer at Wells Union, gives a breakdown of the costs related to George Moore's son and also refers to Thomas Sage and Robert Hopkins who both were said to have relatives in Wells Union that they were not supporting; see cases 1891/094 and 1891/095 respectively.	1891/093
Russ	Alfred George	Sage	Thomas	11	07	1891	Maintenance order	Mo	Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, reported that Elizabeth Sage, aged 68 years and wife of Thomas Sage of St Thomas Street, labourer, had become chargeable to the Common Fund from the beginning of July. She was unable to support herself and was not being supported by her husband. Elizabeth Sage testified that she had had to keep herself for the last two years since her husband often left her without food, locked her out and frequently beat her. She had gone to the Relieving Officer herself and obtained an order to go to the workhouse. Russ argued that her husband was in a position to make a contribution to her support and Russ therefore applied for a maintenance order to be served upon Thomas Sage. Thomas Sage was ordered to pay the sum of 2/9d per week and, in addition, to make a one-off payment of 9/6d to cover the costs of the case.	1891/094

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Russ	Alfred George	Hopkins	Robert	11	07	1891	Maintenance order	Mo	Alfred George Russ. clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, reported that Robert Hopkins of Southover had fallen into arrears with the maintenance payments for a relative who had become chargeable to the Common Fund. Hopkins was ordered to pay the outstanding debt of £5.14s.0d plus 5/6d to cover the costs of the case.	1891/095
Luek	Henry	Matthews	John	13	07	1891	Obtaining money under false pretences	Fr	John Matthews of Launcherley, son of Thomas Matthews, was charged with obtaining a suit of clothes, a pair of socks and a pair of boots to the value of £1.3s.7d under false pretences from Alfred William Baker of Wells, draper on 11 July. The case against Matthews was initially heard on 13 July with the prisoner being remanded in custody until the following day. The accused was then committed to stand trial at the next assizes of oyer and terminer in Wells on 18 July and was granted bail on a bond of £5 from himself and £5 from his father, Thomas Matthews. In addition to police serjeant Henry Luke and Alfred William Baker, two witnesses were also bound over to attend the assizes, namely Richard Cornish of Coxley and Jane Stone of High Street.	1891/096
Justices		Various		14	07	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 July. The relevant information from the minutes is included in the cases described earlier.	1891/097
Police		Summers	William	18	07	1891	Hawking without a licence	V	William Summers was seen in the Market Place hawking combs from door to door on 17 July. He was found not to have a pedlar's licence and was charged with vagrancy. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- plus costs of 3/6d or, if unable or unwilling to pay, to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. At the time of his arrest Summers appeared to have 1/8d in cash on his person.	1891/098
Police		Summers	Alice	18	07	1891	Drunkenness	D	Alice Summers, wife of William Summers (see case 1891/098), was found to be staggering drunk in High Street on 17 July. She fell onto a shop window and door and, when taken to the police station, she fell down again. Alice Summers was found guilty of drunkenness in a public place and fined 5/- plus costs or, if unable or unwilling to pay, to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. At the time of her arrest Alice Summers had 2d in cash on her person.	1891/099

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Police		Corbett	John	27	07	1891	Drunkenness	D	John Corbett was charged with being drunk in South Street on 25 July. Corbett pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs or, in the event of default, to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1891/100
Knight	James	Gardner	Elizabeth	01	08	1891	Attempted suicide	Sc	<p>Elizabeth Gardner was charged with attempting to take her own life by drowning in the Palace Moat. She was seen to throw herself into the water but was rescued. Police serjeant Knight had obtained a stretcher and carried her away towards her home in St Thomas Street. Her brother took charge of her and a constable was left with her. At an initial hearing Elizabeth Gardner was bound over to attend a full hearing on 8 August; she was required to put forward a bond of £5 together with another bond of £5 put forward by Thomas Crandon Slade of St Thomas Street (possibly her brother?).</p> <p>At the hearing on 8 August testimony was provided by Abraham Lasbury of West Harptree, mason, who had been passing the Palace Moat, heard someone breathing and called them to the side. Elizabeth Gardner had come to the side and he had pulled her out. Testimony was also provided by Frederick John Brownfield Bateman, GP, who had been called to see Elizabeth Gardner after the incident. He reported that she had been very excitable and suffering from shock but, when asked why she had thrown herself into the water, made no reply. He also noted that he had attended Elizabeth Gardner some months earlier when she was suffering from hysteria, but commented that there was no reason to believe that she was not sane. Mary Jane Harp, wife of George Harp of The Mitre Vaults, was also</p>	1891/101

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
									<p>Horn, wife of George Horn of The Mitre vaults, was also called as a witness. She was a friend of Elizabeth Gardner and had seen her earlier that evening before the incident. She commented that Elizabeth Gardner had seemed very low and had been depressed for some time, suffering from pains in her head. However, she said there had been no indication that Elizabeth Gardner was about to attempt suicide. Police serjeant James Knight also stated that Elizabeth Gardner had made no comment when he had charged her with attempted suicide and offered no reasons for her action.</p> <p>After the hearing the justices discharged Elizabeth Gardner. Note: the witness summons issued suggest that testimony was requested from a gentleman by the name of Brown from St Thomas Terrace, but there is no further documentation on this person.</p> <p>Note: there is no indication of any testimony at the hearing from Elizabeth Gardner herself, nor is there any indication of her family or marital relationships.</p>	
Bisgood	John	Scriven	Joseph	07	08	1891	Failure to display name on commercial vehicle	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Joseph Scriven of Long Sutton, with using a waggon for commercial purposes without displaying a name on the side. The offence took place in Queen Street on 1 August. The summons was served on Scriven by PC Joshua Parfitt of Long Sutton. Scriven was required to pay the costs of the case of 5/6d; this sum was recorded as being paid.	1891/102
Hansford	Edward	Ball Partridge	James William	11	08	1891	Hawking without a licence	V	PC Hansford charged James Ball and William Partridge with hawking without a pedlar's licence in St Andrew Street on 10 August. Both were fined 5/- including costs or, in the event of default, to serve 7 days in prison.	1891/103

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Ball	John	11	08	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In November 1889 John Ball was fined 5/- for failing to ensure that his daughter, Elizabeth, attended school with the frequency required by law (see case 1889/134d). Edward Athelstane Serel, school attendance officer, reported that the fine remained unpaid. A distress order had been issued but had failed to find goods or assets belonging to Ball that could be sold to discharge the debt; the cost of the distress order added 1/6d to the debt. At some point John Ball paid 2/- into court, reducing the outstanding debt to 4/6d, but this summons added back a further 1/- making the outstanding debt 5/6d. Ball was granted one week within which to discharge the debt.	1891/104
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	11	08	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In October 1890 Joseph White was fined 5/- for failing to ensure that his daughters, Matilda and Mary Ann, attended school with the frequency required by law (see cases 1890/101n and 1890/101o). Edward Athelstane Serel, school attendance officer, reported that the fine remained unpaid. A distress order had been issued (see also case 1890/144) but had failed to find goods or assets belonging to White that could be sold to discharge the debt; the cost of the distress order added 1/6d to the debt. The debt was increased by a further 1/- as a result of this summons making the outstanding debt 7/6d. White was granted one week within which to discharge the debt in full.	1891/105
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Ball	Frederick	11	08	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In October 1890 Frederick Ball, labourer, was fined 5/- for failing to ensure that his son, Sidney, attended school with the frequency required by law (see case 1890/101q). Edward Athelstane Serel, school attendance officer, reported that the fine remained unpaid. A distress order had been issued (see also case 1890/145) but had failed to find goods or assets belonging to Ball that could be sold to discharge the debt; the cost of the distress order added 1/6d to the debt. The debt was increased by a further 1/- as a result of this summons making the outstanding debt 7/6d. Ball was ordered to clear the debt forthwith or to serve 7 days in prison.	1891/106

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Bisgood	John	Ball	Frederick	11	08	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In September 1889 Frederick Ball of Mill Lane, labourer, was found guilty of being drunk and disorderly and fined 1/- with costs of 9/- (see case 1889/110). He was permitted to pay in instalments of 5/- per week. However, John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, complained that the debt had not been cleared in full. A distress order had been issued adding 1/6d to the outstanding debt making a total of 11/6d. Ball had made payments of 6/- reducing the debt to 5/6d but the current summons had added a further 1/- to the debt bringing it up to 6/6d. Ball was ordered to pay the outstanding amount forthwith or to serve 7 days in prison.	1891/107
Jenkins	William Henry	Brooks	Walter	11	08	1891	Non-payment of court order	N	In March 1891 a court order was awarded against Walter Brooks of High Street, butcher, for non-payment of the general district rate (see case 1891/022e). William Henry Jenkins, collector of rates, advised that the debt had not been fully discharged. The original debt had been £1.16s.1d, but was increased by 1/6d as a result of a distress order being issued in order to try and recover the debt. Brooks was recorded as paying £1.1s.2d, leaving an outstanding balance of 16/5d, but the cost of the new summons for this case increased the amount owing by 1/- to 17/5d. The case was noted as settled indicating that Brooks had discharged the outstanding debt. Note: the amount of the initial debt does not match the amount shown in the documents for case 1891/022e and the amount paid in by Brooks of £1.1s.2d does not match the entry on the summary list associated with case 1891/022 which suggests 30/-.	1891/108
Wells Poor Law Guardians		Brooks	Walt	11	08	1891	Non-payment of court order	N	In October 1890 a court order was awarded against Walt Brooks of Broad Street, innkeeper, for failure to vaccinate his daughter, Daisy Florence, against smallpox (see case 1890/111). Wells Poor Law Guardians complained that the debt remained outstanding. The original debt had been 12/1d but was increased by 1/6d as a result of a distress order being issued to try and recover the debt. The issue of the summons for the current case had added a further 1/- to the debt which had grown to 14/7d. Note: Brooks was also being pursued for another outstanding debt (see case 1891/110).	1891/109

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Jenkins	William Henry	Brooks	Walt	11	08	1891	Non-payment of court order	N	<p>In March 1891 a court order was awarded against Walt Brooks of Broad Street, innkeeper, for non-payment of the general district rate (see case 1891/022g). William Henry Jenkins, collector of rates, advised that the debt had not been fully discharged. The original debt had been £3.6s.1d, but was increased by 1/6d as a result of a distress order being issued in order to try and recover the debt. Brooks was recorded as paying 2/4d, leaving an outstanding balance of £3.5s.3d, but the cost of the new summons for this case increased the amount owing by 1/- to £3.6s.3d. Brooks was also shown as owing a further 14/7d for a separate case (see case 1891/109). He was ordered to discharge both debts forthwith.</p> <p>A note on the front cover of the documents indicates that a commitment order was issued suggesting that Brooks did not pay and went to prison.</p> <p>Note: there is a subsequent application by Walt Brooks for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Angel Inn (see case 1891/123) which possibly implies that Brooks was unavailable because he was in prison.</p>	1891/110
Sage	Frank	Damerel	Samuel	11	08	1891	Assault	A	<p>Frank Sage of St Thomas Street claimed that he had been attacked and beaten on 10 August by Samuel Damerel of Palace Cottages, caretaker at Wells Recreation Ground. This summons prompted a countersuit from Samuel Damerel (see case 1891/120).</p>	1891/111
Justices		Francis	Harriett	11	08	1891	Non-payment of court order	N	<p>In April 1891 Harriett Francis, wife of Robert Francis of Yarley Hill, was found to have been drunk in a public place and was ordered to pay costs of 3/6d (see case 1891/058). This sum remained unpaid and had grown to 5/- as a consequence of the costs of this action of 1/6d. This action was the issue of a distress order to distrain and sell goods or possessions of Harriett Francis to recover the outstanding debt.</p> <p>At a further hearing on 12 November Harriet Francis had apparently still not discharged the debt and she was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.</p>	1891/112

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Justices		Ball	Frederick	11	08	1891	Non-payment of court order	N	In March 1890 Frederick Ball was ordered to pay the sum of 12/9d with respect to the general district rate made up of 10/3d for the district rate and 2/6d in administrative costs. Ball had paid the sum of 2/- to reduce the outstanding balance to 10/9d but the justices then ordered the issue of a distress warrant at a cost of 1/6d raising the outstanding debt to 12/3d.	1891/113
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burridge	Charles	13	08	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In April 1890 Charles Burridge, labourer, was fined 5/- for failing to ensure that neither his son, Frederick, nor his daughter, Emily, attended school with the frequency required by law (see cases 1890/037b and 1890/037c). Edward Athelstane Serel, school attendance officer, reported that the fine remained unpaid. A distress order had been issued but had failed to find goods or assets belonging to Burridge that could be sold to discharge the debt; the cost of the distress order added 1/6d to the debt. The debt was increased by a further 1/- as a result of this summons making the outstanding debt 7/6d (see also case 1891/117). It was noted that Burridge attended the hearing on 20 August.	1891/114
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burridge	Charles	13	08	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In October 1890 Charles Burridge, labourer, was fined 10/- for failing to ensure that neither his son, Frederick, nor his daughter, Emily, attended school with the frequency required by law (see cases 1890/101i and 1890/101j). Edward Athelstane Serel, school attendance officer, reported that the fine remained unpaid. A distress order had been issued but had failed to find goods or assets belonging to Burridge that could be sold to discharge the debt; the cost of the distress order added 1/6d to the debt. The debt was increased by a further 1/- as a result of this summons making the outstanding debt 12/6d (see also case 1891/117). It was noted that Burridge attended the hearing on 20 August.	1891/115

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Jenkins	William Henry	Burridge	Charles	13	08	1891	Non-payment of court order	N	In March 1891 a court order was awarded against Charles Burridge of Union Street, labourer, for non-payment of the general district rate (see case 1891/022b). William Henry Jenkins, collector of rates, advised that the debt had not been fully discharged. The original debt had been 14/9d, but was increased by 1/6d as a result of a distress order being issued in order to try and recover the debt. Burridge was recorded as paying 7/6d, leaving an outstanding balance of 8/9d, but the cost of the new summons for this case increased the amount owing by 1/- to 9/9d. It was noted that Burridge attended the hearing on 20 August.	1891/116
Bisgood	John	Burridge	Charles	13	08	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In August 1890 Charles Burridge of Union Street, labourer, was fined 5/- with costs of 8/- for being drunk and disorderly (see case 1890/071). John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, reported that the debt had not been fully cleared. A distress order had been issued but had failed to find goods or assets belonging to Burridge that could be sold to discharge the debt; the cost of the distress order added 1/6d to the debt making a total of 14/6d. Burridge had paid the sum of 5/- reducing the debt to 9/6d but the current summons had then taken it back up to 10/6d. It was noted that Burridge attended the hearing on 20 August. Burridge therefore had outstanding debts covering 4 separate cases (see also cases 1891/114, 1891/115 and 1891/116) totalling £2.0s.3d. He was given 14 days within which to pay or to go to prison for 14 days.	1891/117

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Burridge	Ann	13	08	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In August 1890 Ann Burridge, wife of Charles Burridge of Union Street, labourer, was ordered to pay £1.0s.0d after being convicted on a charge of stealing meat (see case 1890/073). John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, reported that the debt had not been fully cleared. A distress order had been issued but had failed to find goods or assets belonging to Ann Burridge that could be sold to discharge the debt; the cost of the distress order added 1/6d to the debt making a total of £1.1s.6d. Ann Burridge had paid the sum of 12/6d reducing the debt to 9/- but the current summons had then taken it back up to 10/-. Ann Burridge was ordered to pay the outstanding debt within 14 days.	1891/118
Justices		Various		13	08	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 August. The primary cases covered are those against George Moore (see case 1891/093) and Joseph Scriven (see case 1891/102). The minutes also include a note to record the transfer of the alcohol licence for The Bull's Head, but there are no names shown for the participants involved.	1891/119
Damerel	Samuel	Sage	Frank	13	08	1891	Assault	A	Samuel Damerel, caretaker of Wells Recreation Ground, complained that on 10 August he had been assaulted and beaten by Frank Sage of St Thomas Street. Kate Hallet of No 19 St John Street and Herbert Cozens of No 14 Union Street were both called as witnesses to support Damerel's case.	1891/120
Damerel	Samuel	Sage	Frank	13	08	1891	Infringement of local bye-laws	Br	Samuel Damerel, caretaker of Wells Recreation Ground, complained that on 10 August Frank Sage had brawled, quarrelled, cursed, sworn and used improper and indecent language in the Recreation Ground in contravention of the local bye-laws.	1891/121
Bisgood	John	Allen	Edward	13	08	1891	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edward Allen of South Street, mason, with being drunk and disorderly in Sadler Street on 11 August. William March of South Street, Thomas Wickham of South Street, an employee of The Swan Hotel, and Henry Burt of Tor Street were all summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Only Wickham's testimony appears in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting. Allen was found guilty and ordered to pay £1, including costs of 15/- or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison.	1891/122

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Brooks	Walt			14	08	1891	Licence transfer application	La	Walt Brooks applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Angel Inn to Charles James Norman. Brooks also provided a note to say the the licence renewal certificate issued in August 1890 had been accidentally destroyed.	1891/123
Bennett	Charles Vincent	Ball	Frederick	17	08	1891	Non-payment of court order	N	In October 1889 a court order was awarded against Frederick Ball of Mill Lane, labourer, for non-payment of water rates. Charles Vincent Bennett, manager of Wells Water Company, complained that the debt remained outstanding. The initial debt was recorded as 7/6d, but this was increased by 1/6d when a distress order was issued to try and recover the money outstanding and grew by a further 1/- as a result of this latest summons, giving an outstanding sum of 10/-. Note: the document on which the debt is initially recorded shows the amount of debt to be only 3/-.	1891/124
Bennett	Charles Vincent	Morgan	Mary	17	08	1891	Non-payment of court order	N	In October 1889 a court order was awarded against Mary Morgan of Mill Lane for non-payment of water rates. Charles Vincent Bennett, manager of Wells Water Company, complained that the debt had not been fully paid. The initial debt was recorded as 15/-, but this was increased by 1/6d when a distress order was issued to try and recover the money outstanding from Mary Morgan. She had made a payment of 8/- reducing the debt to 8/6d, but the debt had grown by a further 1/- to 9/6d as a result of the latest summons. Mary Morgan was ordered to pay 2/6d forthwith, but a note on the front cover of the case document shows the debt to have been settled on 20 August 1891.	1891/125

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	17	08	1891	Non-payment of fine	N	In March 1891 George Edwards of South Street was fined a total of 5/- for failing to ensure that his sons, John and Alfred, attended school sufficiently often (see cases 1891/023b and 1891/023c). Edward Athelstane Serel, school attendance officer, complained that the debt had not been fully discharged. The initial debt of 5/- was increased by 1/6d when a distress order was raised to try and recover the money outstanding. George Edwards was recorded as paying 1/-, reducing the debt to 5/6d, but this summons had increased the debt by 1/- giving a total outstanding of 6/6d. Edwards was granted until the end of August to discharge the debt. Note: the documents for the cases heard in March 1891 do not show the amount of the fines incurred by George Edwards.	1891/126
Bisgood	John	Francis	William	17	08	1891	Drunk in charge of a horse	D	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, charged William Francis of Coxley, haulier, with being drunk in charge of a horse in Sadler Street on 14 August. Frank Gage of Union Street, cabdriver, was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Francis was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs (although the costs were recorded as being 12/-). He was given until 22 August to pay.	1891/127
Justices		Various		20	08	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 20 August 1891. The minutes deal primarily with the case against Edward Allen (see case 1891/122) and then briefly with those cases involving non-payment of fines or court orders.	1891/128
Police		Sweeney	Martin	24	08	1891	Drunk and disorderly	D	Martin Sweeney was charged with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 22 August. He pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d with costs of 3/6d or, if in default, to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1891/129
Bisgood	John	Perry	John	27	08	1891	Licence renewal applications	La	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, advised John Perry, licensee of The Golden Heart in St John Street, that he would be opposing the renewal of Perry's licence on the basis that the establishment was not properly run and that Perry was not a fit person to manage the house.	1891/130

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Godfrey	Frederick	27	08	1891	Licence renewal applications	La	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, advised Frederick Godfrey, licensee of The Nag's Head in Sadler Street, that he would be opposing the renewal of Godfrey's licence on the basis Godfrey had been convicted of drunkenness and the establishment was not properly run.	1891/131
Bisgood	John	Burridge	Charles	28	08	1891	Obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Burridge of Union Street, labourer, with using obscene language in Union Street on 22 August. The tirade of obscene language was directed largely at his wife and he had turned his wife and children out of doors. The costs of the case were recorded as 9/-. Burridge appears not to have been fined but sentenced to 14 days in prison in Shepton Mallet.	1891/132
Bisgood	John	Perry	John	28	08	1891	Cruelty to a mare	C	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Perry of St John Street, innkeeper, with cruelly beating a mare on 22 August in the Market Place. Several witnesses were summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution, namely, John Reid of The Star Inn, veterinary surgeon; Henry Edwards of South Street, labourer; Thomas Dix of Southover, labourer; and George West of Southover, china dealer. Perry had been seen beating the horse with a stick as he rode it along at a fast trot. The horse had dropped dead with the vet stating that the cause of death being a ruptured blood vessel; this was not the result of being beaten but more likely the consequence of being ridden hard soon after giving birth to a foal. Reid noted that he had advised Perry against riding the mare so soon after giving birth. Perry pleaded not guilty, but was fined 5/- with costs of £1.12s.6d. These sums were recorded as paid.	1891/133
Bisgood	John	Perry	John	28	08	1891	Obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Perry of St John Street, innkeeper, with using profane or obscene language in the Market Place on 22 August. Perry pleaded guilty to the offence and was ordered to pay the cost of 7/-. The sum was recorded as being paid. Note: this offence occurred at the same time as the case against Perry for cruelly beating a mare (see case 1891/133).	1891/134

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Ball	Frederick	28	08	1891	Failure to pay fine	N	Edward Athelstane Serel had obtained an earlier court order (see case 1891/106) against Frederick Ball for non-payment of an earlier fine. That judgement had ordered Frederick Ball to pay the outstanding debt of 7/6d in full or else to go to prison for 7 days. Now the justices decided to discharge Frederick Ball.	1891/135
Bennett	Charles Vincent	Ball	Frederick	28	08	1891	Failure to pay water rent	N	Charles Vincent Bennett, manager of Wells Water Company, complained that Frederick Ball of Mill Lane had failed to comply with the court order issued against him in October 1889 for a payment of 7/6d owing for water rent (see case 1889/117a); the initial amount of debt was shown as 3/- but this may have been increased by administrative charges. Distress proceedings had been undertaken to try and sell goods belonging to Ball in order to reduce or clear the debt. This step had been unsuccessful and had increased the debt by 1/6d to 9/-. This summons had further increased the debt by 1/- meaning the outstanding debt was now 10/-. The justices discharged Ball from payment of the debt.	1891/136
Bisgood	John	Burlton	John	01	09	1891	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Burlton of East Horrington, lime burner, with wilfully causing an obstruction on the highway in St Thomas Street by leaving a cart parked there to the danger and inconvenience of other road users and pedestrians. Burlton was fined 10/- with costs of 8/- or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison. The sum of 18/- was noted as paid on 17 September.	1891/137
Police		Cook	Charles	01	09	1891	Hawking without a licence	V	Charles Cook was arrested and charged with hawking without a pedlar's certificate. He was fined 3/6d including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. Cook was committed to prison.	1891/138
Police		Milton Swaish	Alfred Elizabeth	01	09	1891	Drunkenness	D	Alfred Milton and Elizabeth Swaish were charged with being drunk in High Street on 30 August. Both pleaded guilty and fined 5/- with costs of 4/- or to spend 14 days in prison. Both were committed to prison, together with an infant child. Note: The surname of Swaish is doubtful as it is both unclear and modified at least twice in the case documentation.	1891/139

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Banbury	Anne Rose	Banbury	John Edward	02	09	1891	Assault	A	Anne Rose Banbury of Union Street complained that she had been assaulted and beaten by her husband, John Edward Banbury, also of Union Street, on 1 September. She asked that he be required to put forward sureties against his future behaviour towards her.	1891/140
Guardians of Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	05	09	1891	Absconding from workhouse	Ab	Thomas Henry Hucker had been admitted to the workhouse on 3 September, had absconded on 4 September before returning later that same day and then absconding again on 5 September. Hucker was noted as having a history of absconding from the workhouse in this way (see e.g. case 1891/074). He was sentenced to 3 calendar months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1891/141
Jenkins	William Henry	Jenkins	William	05	09	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the City of Wells, reported that William Jenkins of South Street had failed to pay the outstanding sum of 5/11d with respect to the general district rate set on 6 April 1891 (3/5d for the district rate and 2/6d in costs). A further note indicated that the sum of 5/5d had been paid (2/11d for the general district rate and 2/6d in costs).	1891/142
Jenkins	William Henry	Isgrove	John	05	09	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the City of Wells, reported that John Isgrove of South Street had failed to pay the outstanding sum of 13/9d with respect to the general district rate set on 6 April 1891 (11/3d for the district rate and 2/6d in costs). A further note indicated that the justices had excused Isgrove from paying the general district rate (see also case 1891/022n).	1891/143
Jenkins	William Henry	Ball	Frederick	05	09	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the City of Wells, reported that Frederick Ball of Mill Lane had failed to pay the outstanding sum of 7/- with respect to the general district rate set on 6 April 1891 (4/6d for the district rate and 2/6d in costs). A further note indicated that the justices had excused Ball from paying the general district rate.	1891/144
Jenkins	William Henry	Hill	Mrs S	05	09	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the City of Wells, complained that Mrs S Hill of Union Street had failed to pay the general district rate set on 6 April 1891. The amount outstanding was recorded as 4/6d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 7/-. Mrs Hill was noted as being unable to pay and the verdict of the justices was that she should be excused payment.	1891/145

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Watts	Henry	Brown	Noah	07	09	1891	Hawking without a licence	V	PC Watts charged Noah Brown of Weston-super-Mare with hawking without a licence on 7 September. He saw Brown going from house to house in High Street and, when challenged, Brown claimed to be looking for a job and to be offering to grind knives. However, he was unable to produce a pedlar's certificate and had no equipment with him that would enable him to grind knives - although he appeared to have at least one knife. PC Watts noted that he recognised Brown from seeing him at an earlier date in the prison at Shepton Mallet. Brown was found guilty on the charge of vagrancy and sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: Brown was also charged with the theft of the knife that was in his possession (see case 1891/147).	1891/146
Hansford	Edward	Brown	Noah	07	09	1891	Theft of knife	T	PC Hansford charged Noah Brown with the theft of a knife from the store of Way & Co; the value of the knife was put at 3/-. Edward Gammon, a clerk in the store, claimed that he had been approached by Brown who asked to do some work on grinding the knives in the store. Gammon refused. Brown then asked to see one of the knives and when he was shown it walked out of the shop with it, supposedly to do some work on it. Gammon, who was alone in the shop, let him go, saying that it was Brown's responsibility if he did grind the knife since he would not be paying anything for it. Brown was then arrested for hawking without a licence (see case 1891/146) and the knife was in his possession. The justices dismissed the charge of theft against Brown.	1891/147
Salmon	Henry L	Wickham	Charles	07	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that Charles Wickham of Priory Place had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Wickham had been assessed as having to pay 7/6d but with the costs of 2/6d for this summons the debt had risen to 10/-. Wickham's wife attended the hearing and admitted that they had been unable to pay. The justices excused Wickham from payment because of his poverty.	1891/148

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Salmon	Henry L	Cole	W J	07	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that W J Cole of Southover had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Cole had been assessed as having to pay 4/- but with the costs of 2/6d for this summons the debt had risen to 6/6d. A distress order was issued for goods belonging to Cole to be seized and sold in order to try and clear the debt.	1891/149
Salmon	Henry L	Chappell	William	07	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that William Chappell of No 60a Southover had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Chappell had been assessed as having to pay 4/6d but with the costs of 2/6d for this summons the debt had risen to 7/-. The justices determined that a distress order should be issued but the warrant was not to be issued until a week on Monday in order to give Chappell time to pay.	1891/150
Salmon	Henry L	Tidball	Martha	07	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that Martha Tidball of Southover had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Martha Tidball had been assessed as having to pay 3/6d but with the costs of 2/6d for this summons the debt had risen to 6/-. The case was recorded as settled on 9 September indicating that Martha Tidball had paid the amount outstanding.	1891/151
Salmon	Henry L	Jenkins	Mrs M A	07	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that Mrs M A Jenkins of Southover had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Mrs Jenkins had been assessed as having to pay 3/6d but with the costs of 2/6d for this summons the debt had risen to 6/-. The justices excused Mrs Jenkins from payment.	1891/152
Salmon	Henry L	Isgrove	John	07	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that John Isgrove of South Street had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Isgrove had been assessed as having to pay 7/6d but with the costs of 2/6d for this summons the debt had risen to 10/-. The justices excused Isgrove from payment on the basis of his successful appeal for exemption (see case 1891/028).	1891/153
Salmon	Henry L	Ackerman	Edward	07	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that Edward Ackerman of Priory Place had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Ackerman had been assessed as having to pay 4/- but with the costs of 2/6d for this summons the debt had risen to 6/6d. The justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant if Ackerman had not paid by 26 September. A payment of 4/- was recorded as received on 26 September.	1891/154

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Salmon	Henry L	Godfrey	Frederick Henry	07	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that Frederick Godfrey of Sadler Street had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Godfrey had been assessed as having to pay 18/- but with the costs of 2/6d for this summons the debt had risen to £1.0s.6d.	1891/155
Salmon	Henry L	Hancock	Thomas	07	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that Thomas Hancock of St Thomas Street had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Hancock had been assessed as having to pay 3/3d but with the costs of 2/6d for this summons the debt had risen to 5/9d. The justices excused Hancock from payment since he had no means with which to pay.	1891/156
Justices		Various		10	09	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 September. There is detailed testimony of the case against John Perry for cruelty to a mare (see case 1891/133). There are also notes on the annual application for renewal of alcohol licences. All licences were renewed but it was noted that John Perry would be leaving The Golden Heart in St John Street on 29 September, so the renewal was granted subject to a new tenant being appointed. It was also noted that Frederick Godfrey would be leaving The Nag's Head in Sadler Street on 29 September. Note: the minutes also include reference to two additional cases (see cases 1891/158 and 1891/159).	1891/157
Police		Thompson	James	10	09	1891	Vagrancy	V	James Thompson was charged with hawking without a pedlar's certificate on 9 September. He pleaded guilty and was fined 10/- or to spend 14 days in prison. (See case 1891/057).	1891/158
Police		Smith	William	10	09	1891	Begging	V	William Smith was charged with begging at the Bishop's Palace and other places on 9 September. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. (See case 1891/057).	1891/159
Police		Paul	Albert	11	09	1891	Begging	V	Albert Paul was charged with begging on 9 September. Rev. D Melville Ross explained that Paul was using a letter of recommendation to seek donations. Paul pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1891/160

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Police		Gadd Free	Thomas James Thomas	11	09	1891	Theft	T	<p>Thomas James Gadd aged 9 and Thomas Free aged 11 were charged with stealing a number of items from the shop of John Way Lovegrove, including 2 pocket books, a fancy box, a blacklead, a pen holder, a ruler, a pack of cards, a telescope and 4 balls with a total value of 6/6d. In addition, they were charged with stealing 2 pocket knives which were the property of Robert Herring. The two boys were each sentenced to 6 strokes of a birch rod.</p> <p>Note: in a separate document dated 12 September but also referring to a temporary transfer of an alcohol licence (see case 1891/162) the two boys were charged with stealing 6 pocket knives from Robert Herring with a value of 7/-. This charge was apparently dismissed.</p> <p>Note: William Free aged 6 was initially included in the list of defendants but his name was then struck out.</p>	1891/161
Padfield	Wm Curtis			12	09	1891	Licence transfer application	La	<p>An application was submitted for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Nag's Head from Frederick Godfrey to Wm Curtis Padfield. The transfer was granted on payment of the required fee of 2/6d.</p> <p>This document also notes that Thomas Gadd and Thomas Free were charged with the theft of 6 knives from the shop of Robert Herring and that the case was dismissed (see also case 1891/161).</p>	1891/162
Davis	Rose	Davis	George	14	09	1891	Assault	A	<p>Rose Davis of St Thomas Street, wife of John Davis, complained that she had been assaulted and deliberately struck in the mouth by George Davis of St Thomas Street, labourer. George Davis did not appear at the hearing; he was found guilty of the offence and fined 10/6d including costs or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison.</p>	1891/163

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Nurse	Thomas Curry	21	09	1891	Failure to report notifiable livestock disease	Ld	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Curry Nurse of High Street, butcher, with failing to notify the authorities that he had a pig in his field at Tor Furlong that was infected with swine fever, a notifiable disease. John Crandon and Charles Raines both of St Thomas Street were summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Both Crandon and Raines testified to having owned or seen infected pigs in or close to Tor Furlong around 7 September. Several pigs were also known to have died at around that time and been buried in that area. John Reid, veterinary surgeon, had visited Tor Furlong on 7 and 16 September and had encountered infected pigs and also pigs that had died from swine fever. It was agreed that Nurse had failed to report a notifiable disease and was fined £5 including costs.	1891/164
Bisgood	John	Sage Hanney	Frank James	21	09	1891	Affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frank Sage of Morgan's Place, St Thomas Street, labourer, and James Hanney of Tor Street, labourer, with making an affray in St Thomas Street on 14 September. John Henry Toomer of St Thomas Street was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Both Sage and Hanney were found guilty of the offence and each was required to pay 7/- to cover the costs of the case.	1891/165
Salmon	Henry L	Brooks	Walt	21	09	1891	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon complained that Walt Brooks, now of St John Street, Bridgwater, had failed to pay the poor rate set on 22 May 1891. Brooks owed the sum of 15/2d for the poor rate plus costs of 3/6d making a total of 18/8d. The hearing was scheduled to take place on 8 October but was adjourned to 12 November. At the hearing on 12 November Brooks was recorded as having paid the sum of 18/8d.	1891/166
Hansford	Edward	Perry	James	23	09	1891	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Hansford encountered James Perry around midnight in Mill Lane leaning against a door. Perry claimed that he was waiting for someone but when PC Hansford told him to go home Perry challenged him to a fight and started shouting and cursing with insults about the police. The defendant was discharged.	1891/167

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Brooks	Walt	23	09	1891	Non-payment of general district rate	N	<p>William Henry Jenkins, collector for the City of Wells, complained that Walt Brooks had failed to pay the general district rate set on 6 April 1891. In Brooks' case the rate assessment was for £1.5s.6d (although he appeared to have disputed part of the assessment), but with the addition of administrative costs the sum outstanding had increased to £1.9s.0d. Brooks was granted 6 weeks within which to pay the debt.</p> <p>At a further hearing on 12 November Brooks was granted another month within which to pay the outstanding debt for the general district rate.</p> <p>Note: the summons showed Brooks' address as being St John Street, Bridgwater; earlier in the year, before his prison sentence (see case 1891/110), he had been residing in Broad Street.</p> <p>Note: the date of 23 September is the date on which the summons was served on Brooks; this is the earliest date that can be established as the start of the process since there is no date on the initial summons itself.</p>	1891/168
Justices		Various		24	09	1891	Licence renewal applications	La	<p>Alcohol licence renewals were agreed for Thomas Way and J B Wickenden on payment of the fee of 8/6d each. A temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Nag's Head to John Ashman was agreed on payment of the fee of 2/6d.</p> <p>Note: the name recorded here as Thomas Way is unclear and could be interpreted differently.</p>	1891/169
Bisgood	John	Andow	George	28	09	1891	Drunk and disorderly	D	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Andow of St Thomas Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 24 September. Andow had been drunk and when approached by PC Hansford he became very loud and abusive. Police serjeant Knight appeared and sought to persuade Andow to go home and with some assistance he was able to get home whereupon he calmed down. Andow was found guilty and fined 10/-, including costs of 9/-. The sum of 10/- was recorded as received.</p>	1891/170

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Loxton	Margaret Sarah	Wingel	John Thomas	29	09	1891	Bastardy	Br	Margaret Sarah Loxton of Southover claimed that she had a daughter born out of wedlock on 26 April 1891 and the putative father was John Thomas Wingel of Eynsford near Farningham in Kent, paper maker. She sought a maintenance order to help her bring up the child. Maggie Loxton had taken up with Wingel early in 1890 when he was working at the paper mill in Wookey Hole. At the time she lived with her parents in Wookey Hole, but she then moved out after a disagreement with her parents for keeping late hours in her relationship with Wingel. Although by now she was only 20 she already had one child from a previous relationship. She broke up with Wingel after a quarrel but she admitted that she had also walked out with other men who worked at the mill, in particular George Jones and William McCulloch. Maggie Loxton's mother had tried to push Wingel into marrying her but he had refused, saying that he was too much in debt to enter into marriage. Maggie's landlady in Wells, Mrs Granville, described her as a very fast girl and had scolded her about her behaviour on several occasions. The justices dismissed the case against Wingel and ordered each party to pay their own costs in the case. Detailed testimony from the witnesses can be found in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 October (see 1891/175).	1890/171
Difford	William			30	09	1891	Licence transfer application	La	There was an application for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Golden Heart from John Perry to William Difford to run until 31 December 1891. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1891/172
Russ	Alfred George	Williams	John	01	10	1891	Desertion of his children	Ds	Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, complained that John Williams alias Harry Williams had run away on or around 16 July 1888 leaving his three children, John, Thomas and Sarah, chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union.	1891/173

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, prepared a list of parents who, over the recent months, had failed to ensure that their child / children had attended school sufficiently often as required by the law. The individuals affected and the names of their children are given in the following entries. Note: the documentation also contains a letter from Mrs Bown of No 2 Green Bank Villas, Burcott Lane regarding her daughter Eliza Bown. Mrs Bown had received a postcard, presumably from the School Attendance Committee, noting that Eliza Bown was not attending school with sufficient frequency. Mrs Bown, clearly annoyed, had responded that it was unreasonable to expect better attendance from her daughter when she was being kept at school by Mrs L C Knight for much longer than the specified timetable hours.	1891/174
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Attwood	William	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Sarah A Bendall, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, recorded that Ada Attwood, aged 9, had only made 20 attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 44 occasions. Ada Attwood was noted as having achieved standard II. The case against William Attwood of St Thomas Street was adjourned for one month to see if his daughter's attendance record improved. At the hearing on 12 November Ada Attwood was noted as having attended on 52 out of 58 possible occasions. William Attwood's wife, who attended the hearing, was discharged.	1891/174a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Haskins	George	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, recorded that George Haskins, aged 9, had only made 24 attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 40 occasions. George Haskins was noted as having achieved standard III. The case against George Haskins the elder of St Thomas Street was adjourned for one month to see if his son's attendance record improved. At the hearing on 12 November George Haskins the younger was reported to have made 54 out of 58 possible attendances. George Haskins' wife who attended the hearing was discharged.	1891/174b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Annie E Cooke, principal teacher at the Central Infants School, recorded that Alfred Edwards, aged 5, had only made 14 attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 83 occasions. Alfred Edwards was not recorded as having passed any standard. The case against George Edwards of South Street was adjourned for one month to see if his son's attendance record improved. At the hearing on 12 November Alfred Edwards was recorded as having attended school on 55 out of 59 possible occasions; George Edwards' wife who attended the hearing was discharged.	1891/174c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Callow	Samuel	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, recorded that John Callow, aged 12, had made no attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 133 occasions. John Callow was noted as having fully achieved standard IV. The case against Samuel Callow of Tucker Street was adjourned for one month to determine if his son's attendance record improved. At the hearing on 12 November John Callow was noted as having attended school on a full-time basis. Samuel Callow was discharged.	1891/174d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, recorded that James Perry the younger, aged 11, had made only 2 attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 133 occasions. James Perry the younger was noted as having fully achieved standard II. Charlotte Perry appeared at the hearing (see also case 1891/190 for further information) and the case was adjourned for one month to see if her son's attendance record improved. At the hearing on 12 November Charlotte Perry was discharged.	1891/174e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bartlett	Eliza	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, recorded that Ernest Chisholm, aged 11, had made only 22 attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 55 occasions. Ernest Chisholm was noted as having achieved standard III. At the hearing Eliza Bartlett was discharged.	1891/174f

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burridge	Charles	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, recorded that Frederick Burridge, aged 11, had made only 25 attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 55 occasions. There is no indication of the standard that Frederick Burridge had achieved. At the hearing all the fines applied to Charles Burridge were remitted and this case was adjourned for one month to see if Frederick Burridge's attendance record improved. At the hearing on 12 November Frederick Burridge was reported as having made 55 attendances out of a possible 59. Charles Burridge did not attend the hearing but was discharged.	1891/174g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Woolford	George	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, recorded that William Woolford, aged 11, had made only 7 attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 55 occasions. William Woolford was recorded as having achieved standard III. The case against George Woolford of Silver Street was adjourned for one month to see if his son's attendance record improved. At the hearing on 12 November William Woolford was shown as having made 52 attendances out of 59. George Woolford was discharged.	1891/174h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Woolford	George	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, recorded that Emma Woolford, aged 11, had made no attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 55 occasions. Emma Woolford was noted as having achieved standard IV. The case against George Woolford of Silver Street was adjourned pending the production of a certificate proving his daughter's age. At the hearing on 12 November a certificate showing Emma Woolford's age was produced and George Woolford was discharged.	1891/174i

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Clements	Henry	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, recorded that Elizabeth Clements, aged 11, had made no attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 55 occasions. Elizabeth Clements was noted as having achieved standard IV. The case against Henry Clements of South Street was adjourned for one month to see if his daughter's attendance record improved. At the hearing on 12 November Henry Clements was discharged; no information was recorded to indicate why he was discharged.	1891/174j
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Haskins	John	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, recorded that Emily Haskins, aged 10, had made only 33 attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 55 occasions. Emily Haskins was noted as having achieved standard II. The case against John Haskins of Southover was adjourned for one month to see if his daughter's attendance record improved. At the hearing on 12 November Emily Haskins was noted as having made 54 attendances out of a possible 59. John Haskins' wife attended the hearing and was discharged.	1891/174k
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Wickham	Charles	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, recorded that William Thomas Wickham, aged 12, had made no attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 45 occasions. William Thomas Wickham was recorded as having achieved standard III. The case against Charles Wickham of Priory Place was adjourned for one month; the notes of the sitting state: 'Muddle to send child to school': the precise meaning of this is not clear. At the hearing on 12 November William Thomas Wickham was recorded as having made 37 attendances out of a possible 59 and 37 attendances out of a possible 40 (it is not clear why two sets of figures were reported). Charles Wickham's wife attended the hearing and was discharged.	1891/174l

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Guppy	Edwin	05	10	1891	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, recorded that Frank Guppy, aged 12, had only made 29 attendances over the recent period when the school had been open on 40 occasions. Frank Guppy was noted as having achieved standard II. The case against Edwin Guppy of St Thomas Street was adjourned for one month to see if his son's attendance record improved. Edwin Guppy did not attend the hearing on 12 November where his son, Frank, was reported to have made 45 attendances out of a possible 58. Edwin Guppy was fined 5/-.	1891/174m
Justices		Various		08	10	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 October. The minutes deal in considerable detail with the case of Margaret Sarah Loxton against John Thomas Wingel (see case 1891/171). In addition the minutes also note a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Angel Inn from Walt Brooks to Charles James Norman.	1891/175
Slater	Bridgett	Walters	Hannah	12	10	1891	Theft	T	Bridgett Slater of South Street, widow, complained that over the 3 months from July to September Hannah Walters of St Cuthbert Street, widow, had stolen from her a number of items. These were listed as three blankets, two tablecloths, five pairs of sheets, one pair of drawers, one chamber utensil and one pair of boots with a total value of one pound. The hearing was initially scheduled for November but was then adjourned to December.	1891/176
Police		Main	Jane	21	10	1891	Drunkenness	D	Jane Main was charged with being drunk in St Thomas Street on 20 October. She pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1891/177
Middle	Edwin	Burton	John	26	10	1891	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	Edwin Middle of St Thomas Street, innkeeper of The Goat Inn, complained that John Burlton had become quarrelsome and disorderly on his premises on 13 October. Middle asked Burlton to leave the premises but Burlton refused to go and was thus in contravention of the Licensing Act. Burlton pleaded not guilty. The costs of 4/6d were shown as paid. Judgement on the case was adjourned for 6 months.	1891/178

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
George	Mrs			27	10	1891	Licence extension application	La	Mrs George applied for a -1-hour extension to the alcohol licence in order to host a Conservative Club dinner. The request was granted. Note: the surname is unclear and may not be 'George'. Note: no information about the hostelry is given but it may possibly be The Swan.	1891/179
Bisgood	John	Shepherd Trollope	Robert Andrew	27	10	1891	Affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Robert Shepherd and Andrew Trollope, both of St Thomas Street and both described as labourers, with making an affray in St Thomas Street on 18 October. John Marshall and Eliza Coleman, both of St Thomas Street, were summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Shepherd and Trollope pleaded guilty and each was ordered to pay 9/6d to cover the costs of the case. In addition they were both bound over in the sum of £5 to be of good behaviour over the next 6 months.	1891/180
Collins	Edwin Adolphus	Cribb	Stephen	27	10	1891	Ringing doorbell	Dp	Edwin Adolphus Collins of Priory Road, auctioneer, complained that his peace had been disturbed on 18 October by Stephen Cribb aged 12 of Townhall Buildings ringing on his doorbell and running away. Collins called upon Ernest Stiles and Russell Stiles, both of Town Hall Buildings, to give evidence in support of his case. Cribb was fined 5/- including costs (which were actually shown as amounting to 8/6d).	1891/181
Collins	Edwin Adolphus	Bendall	Charles	29	10	1891	Ringing doorbell	Dp	Edwin Adolphus Collins of Priory Road, auctioneer, complained that his peace had been disturbed on 25 October by Charles Bendall aged 6 of St Thomas Street, son of Albert Bendall, carpenter, ringing on his doorbell and running away. Charles Bendall was discharged.	1891/182

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Lane	Henry	James	George	04	11	1891	Assault	A	Henry Lane of Tor Street, upholsterer, complained that on 15 October he had been assaulted by George James of St Thomas Street. He called John Hooper the younger of St John Street, insurance agent, to provide evidence in support of his case. George James pleaded not guilty. Henry Lane claimed that he had been standing on the pavement between the grammar school and the college talking to John Hooper when James jumped over the wall, hit him in the chest and called his wife a bloody whore. Hooper's account differed in that he saw James push Lane in the chest and said that I hear you are going to give me a hiding. James was found guilty and ordered to pay costs of 10/- as well as putting forward a surety of £5 of his own money to ensure his good conduct for the next 6 months, particularly towards Henry Lane.	1891/183
Police		Gould	William	05	11	1891	Vagrancy	V	William Gould was charged with vagrancy after being found sleeping in an outhouse belonging to Mr Coles in Market Street. Gould pleaded guilty to the offence.	1891/184
Police		Hawkins Stokes	William Thomas	10	11	1891	Wilful damage	Wd	William Hawkins aged 14 and Thomas Stokes aged 13 were charged with wilful damage to two scaffolding poles in a stable in Mill Lane. The poles were the property of Mr Nurse. Both accused pleaded guilty and were ordered to pay the sum of 1/6d each. These amounts were duly paid.	1891/185
Justices		Various		12	11	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 12 November. For many of the cases there is no specific documentation in the period immediately prior to the date of this sitting, but the cases involved date from earlier periods. The outcomes determined at this sitting are noted in the relevant case documents e.g. all the Education Act cases that were adjourned from the October petty sessions sitting.	1891/186

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Free Dyer Miller	Thomas Edwin Albert	14	11	1891	Theft	T	<p>Three young boys were charged with the theft of 3 boxes of fuses valued at 3d from the shop of John William Talbot. The boys, Thomas Free aged 11, Edwin Dyer aged 10 and Albert Miller aged 12 all pleaded not guilty. However they were all found guilty. Thomas Free, son of Joseph Free of Southover, labourer, was sentenced to 14 days in prison in Shepton Mallet followed by 5 years in a reformatory. Edwin Dyer and Albert Miller were each sentenced to 3 strokes of the birch rod.</p> <p>Note: Joseph Free was noted as being dangerously ill and not in work, while his wife, Hannah, was earning 1/- per day at the paper mill. In addition to Thomas Free, Joseph and Hannah Free had five further children below the age of 17.</p> <p>Note: Thomas Free was noted as having previous recent convictions for larceny (see cases 1891/161 and 1891/162).</p>	1891/187
Hillier Hiller	John Arthur Robert Davies	Richards	Harold	17	11	1891	Absent from work without leave	Ab	John Hillier and Arthur Robert Davies Hillier, brush manufacturers, complained that Harold Richards of Broad Street, an apprentice at the firm, had absented himself from work without leave from 28 September to 14 November. They claimed the sum of £2.2s.0d as compensation for his absence.	1891/188
Green	Esther	Green	George Thomas	18	11	1891	Assault Wilful damage	A Wd	<p>Esther Green of Southover, wife of William Green, labourer, complained that she had been assaulted and beaten on 17 November by George Thomas Green, bootmaker, who was lodging at Mrs Hole's in Southover.</p> <p>In addition, Esther Green claimed that George Thomas Green had wilfully damaged 3 cake dishes, 2 salt cellars, 2 sugar and cream dishes, a looking glass and a jam dish. George Thomas Green was found guilty on both charges. In the case of the assault charge he was ordered to put forward a surety of £10 to ensure his good behaviour for the next 6 months, especially towards Esther Green. In addition he was required to pay 10/6d for the costs of the case. In the event of default he would serve 7 days in prison.</p> <p>For the wilful damage charge he was ordered to pay the sum of 8/6d, including 5/- for the cost of the damage. In the event of default he would serve 7 days in prison. The sum of 19/- was recorded as paid.</p>	1891/189

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Russ	Alfred George	Perry	James	20	11	1891	Desertion of family	Ds	Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, brought a case against James Perry, formerly of Tucker Street, who had run away and deserted his family, leaving his wife, Charlotte, and 5 children to become chargeable to the common fund with effect from 7 October 1891.	1891/190
Police		Cox Sheppard	Louisa Rose	24	11	1891	Theft of boots	T	Louisa Cox aged 15, but nearly 16, and Rose Sheppard aged 16 were charged with stealing a pair of boots valued at 2/11½d from the shop of Mr C Tucker. Both girls pleaded guilty. They were discharged but required to put forward a surety of £5 each and to come up for judgement in the case when called upon.	1891/191
Gould	William	Collins	Samuel Henry	25	11	1891	Dangerous dog	Dd	William Gould of Wells, labourer, complained that Samuel Henry Collins of Portway, inland revenue officer, was the owner of a dangerous dog which was not kept under proper control.	1891/192
Guardians of Wells Union		Ball	Frederick	30	11	1891	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, reported that Frederick Ball of Mill Lane had run away and deserted his wife and 5 children who had become chargeable to the common fund from 6 September 1891. Russ requested that a warrant be issued for Ball's arrest. Note: none of the documents contains a date to indicate the start of the legal process. On the basis of the position of the document in the bundle of petty sessions papers it has been allocated a date of 30 November, although Russ may have issued his request at an earlier date. There is no reference to the case in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 November.	1891/193
Police		Pritchard	Thomas	01	12	1891	Drunkenness	D	Thomas Pritchard was charged with being drunk in High Street on 30 November. He pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- with costs of 3/6d or, if in default, to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Pritchard either chose not to pay or was unable to pay and went to gaol.	1891/194

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Pritchard	Mary	01	12	1891	Using profane / obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight charged Mary Pritchard with using profane and obscene language. She had followed her husband, Thomas, to the police station when he was arrested (see case 1891/194). She became very vociferous and demanded that she stay with him before Knight put her outside. She continued to swear at him and was eventually arrested and, with some difficulty, got into a cell. Knight noted that she was the worse for drink. Mary Pritchard was fined 5/- plus costs of 3/6d or, if in default, to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Like her husband, she went to prison.	1891/195
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	03	12	1891	Failure to comply with order for child to attend school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel , an officer of the School Attendance Committee, brought a case against Joseph White for failing to ensure that his daughters attended school in accordance with a court order of March 1891. The details related to each of the girls are given in the following entries.	1891/196
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	03	12	1891	Failure to comply with order for child to attend school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that Joseph White of Mill Pond Lane had failed to comply with a court order of March 1891 requiring him to ensure that his daughter, Mary Ann White, aged 9, attended the elementary school in St John Street on every occasion that it was open. Information provided by Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, showed that Mary Ann White had made 108 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 144 attendances. Mary Ann White was recorded as having achieved standard 0. At the petty sessions sitting on 10 December the case was adjourned for one month. At the petty sessions sitting on 14 January 1892 the justices discharged Joseph White with respect to the case of his daughter, Mary Ann. The arrears of fines which he had incurred were to be reviewed in the light of Mary Ann's future attendance record.	1891/196a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	03	12	1891	Failure to comply with order for child to attend school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that Joseph White of Mill Pond Lane had failed to comply with a court order of March 1891 requiring him to ensure that his daughter, Matilda White, aged 12, attended the elementary school in St John Street on every occasion that it was open. Information provided by Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, showed that Matilda White had made 100 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 144 attendances. Matilda White was recorded as having achieved standard 0. At the petty sessions sitting on 10 December the case was adjourned for one month. At the petty sessions sitting on 14 January 1892 the justices discharged Joseph White with respect to the case of his daughter, Matilda. The arrears of fines which he had incurred were to be reviewed in the light of Matilda's future attendance record.	1891/196b
Justices		Various		10	12	1891	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 December. The minutes contain the only records of the cases against Jane Palmer and Thomas Palmer (see cases 1891/198 and 1891/199). In addition the minutes also record an alcohol licence extension for T Dumbleton for The Coffee House Tavern on payment of the fee of 2/6d. The minutes also confirm the transfers of the alcohol licences to John Ashman for The Nag's Head (see case 1891/169) and William Difford for The Golden Heart (see case 1891/172); in each case the fee of £1.10s.0d was shown as paid.	1891/197
Police		Palmer	Jane	10	12	1891	Hawking without a licence	V	Jane Palmer was charged with hawking without a valid licence on 9 December. She pleaded guilty and was fined £1 plus costs of 6/6d or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison in Shepton Mallet. (See case 1891/197).	1891/198
Police		Palmer	Thomas	10	12	1891	Fraudulent claim on parish relief	Fr	Thomas Palmer was charged with making false statements in order to claim parish relief on 9 December. Palmer was discharged. (See case 1891/197).	1891/199

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Watts	Henry	Hucker	Thomas Henry	12	12	1891	Absconding from the Wells Union workhouse	Ab	PC Watts charged Thomas Henry Hucker with absconding from the Wells Union workhouse and discharging himself before he was entitled to do so. Hucker had been admitted to the workhouse as a casual pauper on 8 December and discharged on 10 December, only to be readmitted on the evening of 10 December. He was required to stay 4 days but absconded at lunch time on 11 December. He claimed that there was no more work for him to do, so he left. He was arrested by PC Watts later that afternoon. Hucker had previously been convicted as an idle and disorderly person and he had a history of absconding from the workhouse (see cases 1891/074 and 1891/141 and there are further instances in previous years). He was sentenced to 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1891/200
Busgood	John	Gullick	Frederick Arthur	16	12	1891	Cruelty to a mare	C	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Arthur Gullick of Radstock, cab driver, with ill-treating a mare by forcing it to work while the horse was clearly not in a fit state to do so. Gullick had been stopped by police serjeant Knight while in Sadler Street after the horse had been driven through Brown's Gate and into the yard at The White Horse. Gullick, who was assessed by Knight as being around 16, stated that he had been instructed to drive to Wells by his grandfather, Job Milsom, who owned the horses. Knight stated that the mare, one of two horses being driven, was badly lame and was barely able to stand without shaking. John Reid, veterinary surgeon, was asked to examine the mare and reported that she had a navicular disease of the feet which caused the lameness. He stated that the horse should not be worked for some time. Both Gullick and Milsom were fined 5/- each and they were also required to pay the costs which amounted to £2.2s.6d (see also case 1891/202).	1891/201
Bisgood	John	Milsom	Job	16	12	1891	Cruelty to a mare	C	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Job Milsom of Radstock, cab proprietor, with ill-treating a mare by causing it to be worked (and driven by Gullick, see case 1891/201) while the horse was clearly not in a fit state to do so.	1891/202

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Llewellyn	Charles	28	12	1891	Vagrancy	V	Charles Llewellyn alias Charles Churchill was charged with begging in High Street on 22 December. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1891/203
Police		Pritchard Flemming	Thomas Joseph	28	12	1891	Vagrancy	V	Thomas Pritchard and Joseph Flemming were both charged with begging alms in the city on 25 December. Both men pleaded guilty and were sentenced to 7 days in prison.	1891/204
Police		Perry	James	31	12	1891	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	James Perry had been arrested in Kendal where he had been residing under the name of John Lyon after deserting his wife, Charlotte, and their 5 children who had become chargeable to the Wells Union common fund on 7 October 1891 (see 1891/190). Initially he denied ever having been in Somerset but subsequently admitted the charge. Perry was sentenced to 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1891/205
Bisgood	John	Jennings	Edward	31	12	1891	Drunk in charge of a horse	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edward Jennings of New Street, bus driver, with being drunk in charge of a horse and carriage in Broad Street on 24 December. Ernest Collins of St John Street was summoned as a witness for the prosecution. Edward Jennings pleaded guilty and was apparently ordered to pay 10/- including costs (although the costs alone were recorded as 13/-).	1891/206
Bisgood	John	Sweet	Mary	31	12	1891	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mary Sweet of Charles Place, Southover with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 26 December. Mary Sweet pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay 8/- including costs, the payment to be made forthwith or to go to gaol for 7 days.	1891/207

1892

Police		Norman	Mary Ann	09	01	1892	Drunkenness	D	Mary Ann Norman was charged with being drunk in Burcot Road on 8 January. She was fined 5/- with costs of 3/6d or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Mary Ann Norman was recorded as going to gaol.	1892/001
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Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		14	01	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 January 1892. Most of the cases were initiated in 1891 and are listed in that year. The exception is the case involving Frederick Ball which is only documented in these minutes. (see case 1892/003). Also recorded in these minutes was receipt of a payment of 5/- from Walt Brooks towards his outstanding debt with respect to the general district rate (see case 1891/168).	1892/002
Police		Ball	Frederick	14	01	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	Frederick Ball was charged with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 9 January 1892. He pleaded guilty to the offence and was discharged. (See case 1892/002). Note: in November 1891 Frederick Ball was reported as having run away and deserted his wife and family (see 1891/193).	1892/003
Walker	Mr			14	01	1892	Licence extension application	La	Mr Walker applied for a 1-hour extension to his alcohol licence on 20 January in order to host the Foresters' dinner. He paid the fee of 2/6d to secure the extension. Note: the document is undated and no information is given about the forename of the applicant or the venue. A possible venue might have been the Sun Inn.	1892/004
Hawkins	John			23	01	1892	Licence transfer application	La	John Hawkins, nephew of Charles Hawkins and licensee of The Full Moon, applied for a temporary transfer of the licence for that establishment. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1892/005
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		09	02	1892	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that various individuals had not paid the general district rate set on 5 October 1891. The individuals affected and the amounts of debt involved are recorded in the succeeding entries.	1892/006

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Cole	W J	09	02	1892	Non-payment of general district rate	N	W J Cole of Southover was shown as owing 5/8d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 8/2d. A note on the document recorded that, if payment was not made forthwith, a distress warrant was to be issued which would increase the outstanding debt by 4/-. A letter of 10 February from W J Cole, written on headed notepaper of the South Western and Midland Railway Companies, promises payment of the rate by - but not before - Friday 19 February since he would not have any money until the previous evening. The justices acknowledged receipt of the letter but ordered that the debt needed to be paid forthwith.	1892/006a
Jenkins	William Henry	Evans	George	09	02	1892	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George Evans of Southover was shown as owing 15/7d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 18/1d. A note on the document recorded that, if payment was not made forthwith, a distress warrant was to be issued which would increase the outstanding debt by 4/-. Note: distress warrant warning is duplicated.	1892/006b
Jenkins	William Henry	Hopkins	Robert	09	02	1892	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Robert Hopkins of Southover was shown as owing 6/4d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 8/10d. A note on the document recorded that, if payment was not made forthwith, a distress warrant was to be issued which would increase the outstanding debt by 4/-. Note: distress warrant warning is duplicated.	1892/006c
Jenkins	William Henry	Matthews	George	09	02	1892	Non-payment of general district rate	N	George Matthews of Wookey was shown as owing 2/6d for the general district rate for a piece of land in Marchant's Court plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 5/-. A note on the document recorded that Matthews was excused payment and discharged by the justices.	1892/006d
Jenkins	William Henry	Kenniston	Henry	09	02	1892	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Henry Kenniston of Southover was shown as owing 4/11d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/5d. A note on the document recorded that Kenniston was excused payment and discharged by the justices.	1892/006e

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Moore	William	09	02	1892	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Moore of St Cuthbert Street was shown as owing 7/1d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 9/7d. A note on the document recorded the word 'allowed', perhaps implying that Moore was granted additional time within which to pay, but the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 February (see case 1892/010) indicate that Moore was excused payment altogether.	1892/006f
Bisgood	John	Ball	Edwin	09	02	1892	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edwin Ball of St Thomas Street, haulier, with causing an obstruction to traffic in Queen Street by parking his horse and waggon there. The waggon was loaded with lime and was parked there for at least 40 minutes while Ball was in a public house. Ball was ordered to pay the sum of 10/- including costs.	1892/007
Grist	S			10	02	1892	Licence transfer application	La	S Grist applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Nag's Head. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1892/008
Ashman	John			10	02	1892	Licence transfer application	La	John Ashman applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Full Moon. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1892/009
Justices				11	02	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 February. All the cases are documented in earlier entries.	1892/010

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Allen Miller	Tom Tom	12	02	1892	Wilful damage	Wd	Police serjeant James Knight charged Tom Allen aged 20 and Tom Miller aged 17 with wilful damage to a wall in St Thomas Street on 11 February. They were accused of pushing off coping stones that formed the top of the wall. The wall was the property of Robert Winter and fronted four properties which he owned in St Thomas Street where his tenants were Ponting, Hodges, Hill and Holloway. Daniel Cannon of Bath Road had been walking up St Thomas Street some yards behind the two youths when he heard a noise that sounded like a stone falling and soon after he saw Miller push off a coping stone. Mr Ponting had come out to check the noise and reported the incident to the police after talking to Daniel Cannon. Robert Winter of Portway came to inspect the damage to his property and was advised that the cost of repairing the damage was around 10/-. Allen and Miller were arrested and claimed to have done nothing wrong, but they subsequently apologised and expressed regret over their actions. They were fined 1/- plus costs of 5/6d for repairs and 10/6d for the conduct of the case making a total of 17/-. Each was required to pay 8/6d and these sums were recorded as paid.	1892/011
Knight	James	Welch	Elizabeth	13	02	1892	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight charged Elizabeth Welch with being drunk in the Market Place on 13 February. She had asked for a ticket for admission to Wells Union to stay there. Knight had advised her that he could only give her a ticket for one night at Wells Union. She had hung around for a further two hours but had taken more drink in that period and was very drunk. Knight had locked her up. Elizabeth Welch was discharged by the justices on promising to leave the town.	1892/012

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Lovejoy	Frederick William	Creedy	Emma	16	02	1892	Cruelty to a horse	C	Frederick William Lovejoy of Bridgwater, an officer of the RSPCA, complained that Emma Creedy, wife of Joseph Creedy of Coxley, had been guilty of cruelty to a horse in Priory Road on 8 February by violently beating the animal. Lovejoy had seen Emma Creedy driving a grey pony and drawing a two-wheeled vehicle along Priory Road. She had a whip in her hand and she brought it down on the back of the pony with some violence at least 15 times. He ran after her and caught her at one of the railway stations. She pleaded with him not to prosecute her because she had been hurrying home in order to get the pony back to its owner. Lovejoy had examined the pony and found the marks of the whip on both sides of its body, together with evidence of tenderness and bruising. Emma Creedy was fined 5/- including costs (although the costs alone were recorded as being 8/-); this sum was recorded as paid.	1892/013
Bisgood	John	Taylor	Edward	16	02	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edward Taylor of Easton, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in Sadler Street on 13 February. Thomas Miller of South Street was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. PC Hansford had seen Taylor staggering in the road near The Swan Vaults and had gone into The Vaults to advise them not to serve him, but he had already been refused drink. Hansford then talked to Taylor and advised him to go home but Taylor became very excited and challenging, even to the point of appearing somewhat manic. Evidence given by Thomas Miller and William Lovelace of Broad Street, bootmaker, confirmed Taylor's excited state and neither of them would swear that Taylor was sober. Edward Taylor pleaded not guilty to the charge but was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1892/014

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Isgar	Robert	Moore	William	19	02	1892	Eviction notice	Ev	Robert Isgar, acting as agent for Mrs E S Collins of Winnipeg in Canada who was the owner of No 1 South Street, issued an eviction notice to William Moore with respect to this property. The notice advised William Moore that on 29 February he would apply to the justices for a warrant to take possession of the tenement and evict anyone then occupying it. William Moore had been served a notice to quit by Edwin Adolphus Collins on behalf of Robert Isgar on 2 February but had not so far complied with its provisions.	1892/015
Bisgood	John	Parfitt	William	23	02	1892	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Parfitt of Queen Street with being drunk in High Street on 20 February. Parfitt pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs of 8/-; this sum was recorded as paid.	1892/016
Bisgood	John	Vincent	John	25	02	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Vincent of Southover, labourer, with using obscene language in Broad Street on 20 February. John Vincent's wife attended the hearing on 10 March but the case was adjourned to 7 April. John Vincent pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined the sum of 10/- including costs of 9/-. At the hearing it was noted that John Vincent had a previous conviction in December 1890 (see case 1890/153) for being drunk and disorderly in High Street on Christmas Day when he was fined 2/6d with costs of 3/6d.	1892/017

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hansford	Edward	Green	John	26	02	1892	Sleeping rough	V	PC Hansford found John Green sleeping in an outhouse behind the common lodging house on Southover. When asked what he was doing there Green responded that he had permission from Robert Hopkins who was the owner of the outhouse. PC Hansford was not satisfied with this account and did not believe that Green could demonstrate visible means of subsistence. When searched, Green had 7 1/2d in money as well as a pipe and some tobacco. Robert Hopkins was contacted and confirmed that he had given Green permission to use the outhouse on a few occasions but told him not to make a habit of it and not to cross his neighbours' gardens to get there. Green had a previous conviction for sleeping rough in December 1890 when he had served 7 days in prison. On this occasion Green was discharged. Note: the available petty sessions records do not show details of an entry for John Green in December 1890.	1892/018
Bisgood	John	Marsh Bailey	Cornelius George	07	03	1892	Making an affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Cornelius Marsh of Westbury, drover, and George Bailey of Shepton Mallet, also a drover, with making an affray in High Street on 5 March. Both men pleaded guilty to the charge and were each required to put forward a bond of £5 as a guarantee of good behaviour for the next 6 months, especially towards each other. They were also required to pay the sum of 6/7d each to cover the costs of the case; these sums were recorded as paid.	1892/019
Justices		Various		10	03	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 March. All the cases heard at this sitting are documented in earlier entries, although the hearing of the case against John Vincent (see case 1892/017) was deferred until the petty session sitting on 7 April.	1892/020
Davies	Evan Coleman	Haskins	George W	12	03	1892	Non-payment of dues	N	Evan Coleman Davies, lieutenant in the 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry, complained that George W Haskins of East Wells was refusing to pay the sum of £1.16s.0d that had become due on 1 March in consequence of his membership of C2 Company. Haskins admitted that he had not paid and was ordered to pay the sum outstanding plus costs of 4/6d bringing to the total to £2.0s.6d. Haskins was instructed to discharge the debt by making weekly payments of 2/6d, although he pleaded poverty and an inability to pay.	1892/021

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Davies	Evan Coleman	Harvey	Edward	12	03	1892	Non-payment of dues	N	Evan Coleman Davies, lieutenant in the 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry, complained that Edward Harvey of Southover was refusing to pay the sum of £1.16s.0d that had become due on 1 March in consequence of his membership of C2 Company. Harvey admitted that he had not paid and was ordered to pay the sum outstanding plus costs of 4/6d bringing to the total to £2.0s.6d. Harvey was instructed to discharge the debt by making weekly payments of 2/6d.	1892/022
Davies	Evan Coleman	Hawkins	Fred	12	03	1892	Non-payment of dues	N	Evan Coleman Davies, lieutenant in the 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry, complained that Fred Hawkins of East Wells was refusing to pay the sum of £1.16s.0d that had become due on 1 March in consequence of his membership of C2 Company. Although the documentation for this case was prepared, the summons was marked as 'not served' so the case did not proceed, possibly indicating that Hawkins had paid the outstanding sum or had resigned his role in C2 Company.	1892/023
Rich	John	Sheppard Stevens	William Henry	15	03	1892	Assault	A	John Rich of Tucker Street complained that he had been assaulted on 13 March by William Sheppard of St Cuthbert Street, carpenter, and Henry Stevens of South Street, labourer. Rich claimed that, as he was going down the road past Brooks' butchers shop, Sheppard knocked off his hat and when he bent down to pick it up Stevens came along and pushed him against the wall. The case against the two defendants was dismissed at the hearing on 7 April.	1892/024
Radford	Louisa	Radford	Mark James	18	03	1892	Assault	A	Louisa Radford complained that she had been assaulted and beaten by her husband, Mark James Radford of Broad Street, baker. She also gave notice of her intention to apply to the justices for an order which meant she would no longer have to co-habit with Mark James Radford. Louisa Radford then withdrew the case before the hearing took place. Mark James Radford was bound over with a surety of £5 to keep the peace for the next 6 months, particularly towards his wife. Note: it is not clear who paid the costs of the case which were recorded as 11/-.	1892/025

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Baker	Edwin	Cornish	Richard	19	03	1892	Assault	A	<p>Edwin Baker of Portway, labourer, complained that on 19 March he had been assaulted in Portway by Richard Cornish of Coxley, haulier. This case became subject to a counter-complaint by Richard Cornish (see case 1892/027). Edwin Baker claimed that he had been outside his house in Portway moving some goods belonging to him when Cornish came out of The Mermaid and demanded that Baker give him a bible. Baker refused, saying that Cornish had already had too many things from him. Baker then claimed that Cornish struck him with the butt-end of his whip, cutting his head and knocking him down. Cornish had then supposedly knelt upon him and struck him again. Baker claimed that Cornish had threatened his life, as he had done on several occasions over the last 3 - 4 years. Baker had then attempted to persuade the police to take out a warrant against Cornish but had been refused. Testimony from Albert White who lived with the Bakers on Portway supported most of Baker's account but he had come out of the house when the dispute was already under way. Sabina Vernon, wife of Baker's neighbour, David Vernon, had been looking out of her window and saw Cornish talk first to Mrs Baker and then to Edwin Baker but did not hear what was said. She then saw Baker and Cornish on the ground, but had supposedly missed part of the fight in which Cornish claimed that he had been kicked by Baker. The justices determined that each party should bear half the costs of the case which amounted to 9/6d; both men were recorded as paying 4/9d each.</p>	1892/026

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Cornish	Richard	Baker	Edwin	21	03	1892	Assault	A	Richard Cornish of Coxley, haulier, issued a counter-complaint against that raised by Edwin Baker (see case 1892/026). Cornish complained that on 19 March he had been attacked by Edwin Baker of Portway, labourer, rather than the other way about. Cornish's version of events differed considerably from Baker's. Cornish stated that he had first asked Mrs Baker for a bible and she told him to ask her husband. Baker then allegedly swore at Cornish and told him to go away before jumping at him and hitting him in the face with his fists. Then Baker had kicked him several times, including once in the groin. Cornish then admitted that a bit of a struggle had taken place. Testimony from Frank Sheldon stated that he had seen Baker and Cornish having a heated verbal argument with Cornish at that time having his hands in his pockets. Baker had then attacked Cornish and struck him in the face and Cornish had responded by hitting Baker with the butt-end of his whip. A witness statement from Charles Vowles reported that he had been in his shop, heard the argument and saw Baker and Cornish come together with Baker striking Cornish several times with his fists and also kicking out at him. Initially Cornish had had his hands in his pockets but then fought back and put Baker down on the ground. The judges determined that Baker should be fined 2/6d and should also pay the costs of 10/-; both sums were recorded as paid.	1892/027
Hucker	Louisa	Radford	Mark James	22	03	1892	Wilful damage	Wd	Louisa Hucker complained that on 21 March Mark James Radford had unlawfully and violently damaged a window in the cottage which belonged to her. The damage was valued at around 1/-. Radford pleaded guilty to the offence but was discharged. Note: the costs of this case were recorded as 3/-. It is not clear who paid the costs.	1892/028
Bisgood	John	Redman	John	22	03	1892	Unauthorised livestock movement	Lm	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, charged John Redman of Theale near Wedmore, labourer, with bringing two pigs to market in Wells without having the appropriate authorisation that allowed the movement of the animals to the market. John Redman pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs of 8/-.	1892/029

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		23	03	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 23 March. In addition to the cases involving Mark James Radford the minutes deal primarily with the evidence put forward in the two cases involving Edwin Baker and Richard Cornish (see cases 1892/026 and 1892/027). An additional case involving Henry Johnson is included in the minutes (see case 1892/031).	1892/030
Police		Johnson	Henry	23	03	1892	Begging	V	Henry Johnson was arrested for begging. He pleaded guilty to the charge but was discharged. (See case 1892/030).	1892/031
Police		Baudy Pitman Saunders	James James ?	26	03	1892	Obstruction of footway	O	PC Rapson reported that he had seen a group of young men loitering on the pavement near Askew's shop and deliberately forcing passers-by to walk in the roadway. They also made nasty remarks to females who were passing by. Rapson asked them to leave the pavement free for other people and they did so with considerable reluctance. He also asked them for their names and, initially at least, James Baudy of Priddy and James Pitman refused to give theirs while Saunders (no forename given) provided his freely. No summons was served on Baudy, Saunders was discharged and a new summons was issued for Pitman as a result of some confusion over whether the forename was William or James. Note: there is not a separate document for this case. The details are contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 7 April 1892 (see case 1892/043).	1892/032
Guardians of Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	28	03	1892	Absconding from Wells Union	Ab	Frederick William Osman, master of Wells Union, complained that Thomas Henry Hucker had absconded from Wells Union without permission. Hucker applied for relief on 25 March, was discharged the following day, but then readmitted later in the day with the proviso that he must not leave again for a further 4 days. However, Hucker had left the following morning. Police serjeant Knight was advised by Osman that Hucker had absconded. He searched for Hucker and found him at the bottom of Silver Street. Hucker's complaint was that he had left because he had been locked up in a dark room where tramps are normally locked up. Hucker was sentenced to two calendar months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1892/033

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Allen	James	28	03	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Allen of Haydon, plumber, with using obscene language in Sadler Street on 22 March. PC Perrett saw Allen driving a pony and trap along Sadler Street and heard him cursing and swearing loudly. When Allen went into Slater's shop PC Perrett spoke to him and told him to moderate his language but was then abused by Allen who also threatened him with the butt-end of his whip. Frederick Guppy of St Thomas Street was summoned as a witness for the prosecution. James Allen was found guilty of the offence and fined 2/6d with costs of 5/- (although the costs alone were recorded as being 13/6d).	1892/034
Bisgood	John	Hole Keniston Tucker Ayres	Walter George Charle Arthurb6	28	03	1892	Playing football in the street	H	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, charged the defendants with playing football in the street on 21 March in contravention of the Highways Act. All the defendants, i.e. Walter Hole, George Keniston, Charles Tucker and Arthur Ayres, pleaded guilty and each of them was fined 2/- including costs (although the costs alone were recorded as being 11/-).	1892/035
Bisgood	John	Wall jnr	Thomas	28	03	1892	Failure to display name on commercial vehicle	H	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Wall the younger of Street, haulier, with an offence against the Highways Act by not having a name painted on the side of his commercial vehicle when it was stopped in High Street. Wall pleaded guilty and was fined 10/- including costs of 8/-.	1892/036
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		29	03	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that certain parents had failed to ensure their child / children had attended school sufficiently often over the last 6 months. The individual cases are shown in the succeeding entries.	1892/037
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Collins	George	29	03	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	George Collins of Portway was charged with respect to his son Walter. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, noted that Walter, aged 12, had only made 38 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 55 attendances. Walter was recorded as having passed standard IV. At the petty sessions sitting of 7 April the hearing of this case against George Collins was adjourned for one month to see if attendance improved. At the petty sessions sitting on 12 May George Collins was discharged.	1892/037a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Haskins	John	29	03	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	John Haskins of Southover was charged with respect to Arthur Hayes for whom he was in the position of guardian. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Arthur Hayes, aged 11, had only made 23 attendances in the recent period when the school was open on 64 occasions. Arthur Hayes was recorded as having passed standard IV. At the petty sessions sitting of 7 April Haskins was ordered to send the child to the elementary school in St John Street and to ensure that the child attended school every day it was open except for Sundays, Christmas Day and Good Friday.	1892/037b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Keniston	Henry	29	03	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	Henry Keniston of Southover was charged with respect to his daughter, Alice Keniston. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Alice, aged 8, had made only 46 attendances in the recent period when the school was open on 74 occasions. Alice was noted as having passed standard I. At the petty sessions sitting of 7 April Henry Keniston was ordered to send the child to the elementary school in St John Street and to ensure that she attended school every day it was open except for Sundays, Christmas Day and Good Friday.	1892/037c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Keniston	Henry	29	03	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	Henry Keniston of Southover was charged with respect to his daughter, Rosa Keniston. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Rosa had made no attendances over a period of more than 6 months when the school was open on 283 occasions. Rosa was noted as having passed standard I. At the petty sessions sitting of 7 April Henry Keniston was ordered to send the child to the elementary school in St John Street and to ensure that she attended school every day it was open except for Sundays, Christmas Day and Good Friday.	1892/037d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Lamb	Archelans William	29	03	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	Archelans William Lamb of South Street was charged with respect to his daughter, Lily. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Lily, aged 10, had only made 58 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 187 attendances. Lily was recorded as having achieved standard 0. At the petty sessions sitting of 7 April the hearing of this case against Archelans William Lamb was adjourned for one month pending the production of a medical certificate. At the petty sessions sitting on 12 May Lamb was discharged on the basis that his daughter, Lily, had shown better attendance.	1892/037e
Bisgood	John	Coles Pitts	Gilbert Frederick	01	04	1892	Affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Gilbert Coles of High Street, cab driver, and Frederick Pitts also of High Street with making an affray in the Palace Walk on 31 March. Jacob Martin of the Market Place, innkeeper, and Henry Vincent the younger of High Street were called to act as witnesses for the prosecution. Coles and Pitts were found guilty of the offence and were required to pay 4/- each to meet the costs of the case; these sums were recorded as paid.	1892/038
Bisgood	John	Francis	William	02	04	1892	Asleep while driving a horse and waggon	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Francis of Coxley, labourer, with driving a horse and waggon along St Andrew Street on 28 March while being asleep on the waggon and therefore not having the ability to control and direct the movement of the horse. Francis was found guilty and instructed to pay 10/- including costs of 8/-; the justices ordered payment to be made by Saturday.	1892/039
Police		Carcham	Mary Ann	04	04	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	Mary Ann Carcham was charged with using obscene language in a public place on 3 April. She pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 7 days in prison in Shepton Mallet.	1892/040

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Ridley	Ellen	Ridley	John	04	04	1892	Assault	A	<p>Ellen Ridley of St Thomas Street complained that she had been assaulted by her husband, John Ridley, also of St Thomas Street on 3 April. She feared further assaults with the potential for grievous bodily harm.</p> <p>The hearing took place on 5 April when Ellen Ridley testified that she had put her husband's dinner out for him as soon as he had come in, but he started to complain about it and threw it in the grate. She refused to give him any more and he then hit her several times. She told him that he would pay for his actions and he responded that he would give her something worth paying for and went to attack her again. Her screams alerted the neighbours and one of them came in to rescue her, allowing her to leave the house and be taken in by another neighbour. Ellen Ridley then called the police while John Ridley threatened to kill her and beat her brains out. She noted that her husband had struck her several times in the past and had been brought before the justices because of an assault on her.</p> <p>PC Hansford testified that he had been summoned by Ellen Ridley to go to her house. He found John Ridley and a good deal of broken crockery. Ridley took another plate from the table and threw it in the grate, and then attempted to attack his wife, but PC Hansford intervened and persuaded him not to cause further trouble.</p> <p>The justices decided to fine John Ridley £1 plus the costs of the case and allowed him 3 weeks within which to pay. They also determined that Ellen Ridley should no longer be required to co-habit with John Ridley and that he would be required to provide support to her. His normal weekly earnings were put at 17/6d and up to 1 July he was required to pay Ellen Ridley 10/- per week and then from that date the amount would increase to 12/- per week.</p> <p>Note: a small piece of paper included in the documents appears to give a new address for Ellen Ridley at Mrs Brine's of 55 High Street in Street.</p>	1892/041

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		James	John	05	04	1892	Drunkenness	D	John James was charged with being drunk on Glastonbury Road on 4 April. He was found lying on the footpath, but then got up, staggered a short distance and fell down again. The arresting officer needed help to get James to the police station. James pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d or to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet; no indication was given as to whether James was also liable for the costs of 6/6d.	1892/042
Justices		Various		07	04	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 7 April 1892. All cases are detailed in earlier entries except the cases against Baudy, Pitman and Saunders for blocking the footway (see case 1892/032) and an application from The King's Head for a one-hour extension to host a dinner on 15 April; the application was granted on the payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1892/043
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that certain parents had failed to ensure their child / children had attended school sufficiently often over the last 6 months. The individual cases are shown in the succeeding entries.	1892/044
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Say	Thomas	11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	Thomas Say of Priest Row was charged with respect to his daughter, Ethel. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Ethel, aged 7, had only made 45 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 83 attendances. Ethel was recorded as having passed standard 0. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 May Thomas Say was discharged.	1892/044a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Coles	Walter	11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	Walter Coles of Southover was charged with respect to his daughter, Rose. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Rose, aged 9, had only made 62 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 83 attendances. Rose was recorded as having passed standard I. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 May Walter Coles was discharged.	1892/044b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Francis	Charles Frederick	11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	Charles Frederick Francis of South Street was charged with respect to his daughter, Rosa. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Rosa, aged 12, had only made 31 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 83 attendances. Rosa was recorded as having passed standard IV. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 May Charles Francis was discharged.	1892/044c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hawkins	John	11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	John Hawkins of Southover was charged with respect to his daughter, Annie. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Annie, aged 8, had only made 66 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 83 attendances. Annie was recorded as having passed standard I. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 May John Hawkins was discharged.	1892/044d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hawkins	John	11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	John Hawkins of Southover was charged with respect to his daughter, Kate. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Kate, aged 11, had only made 56 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 83 attendances. Kate was recorded as having passed standard III. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 May John Hawkins was discharged.	1892/044e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Walters	James	11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	James Walters of Southover was charged with respect to his daughter, Beatrice. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Beatrice, aged 10, had only made 35 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 83 attendances. Beatrice was recorded as having passed standard III. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 May there is no indication of the outcome of the case against James Walters; there is no summons for this case, so it is possible that it did not come to court.	1892/044f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Wilton	John	11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	John Wilton of Southover was charged with respect to his daughter, Hannah. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Hannah, aged 12, had only made 38 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 83 attendances. Hannah was recorded as having passed standard IV. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 May there is no indication of the outcome of the case against John Wilton; there is no summons for this case, so it is possible that it did not come to court.	1892/044g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cribb	George	11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	George Cribb of Town Hall Buildings was charged with respect to his daughter, Annie. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Annie, aged 11, had only made 37 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 83 attendances. Annie was recorded as having passed standard IV. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 May George Cribb was discharged.	1892/044h

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Sims	Robert	11	04	1892	Failure to send child to school	Ed	Robert Sims of Ivy Place was charged with respect to his ward, Elizabeth Kellaway. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, noted that Elizabeth, aged 11, had only made 32 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 83 attendances. Elizabeth was recorded as having passed standard IV. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 May there is no indication of the outcome of the case against Robert Sims; there is no summons for this case, so it is possible that it did not come to court.	1892/044i
Allen	John	Lister	Louisa	16	04	1892	Theft of silver watch	T	John Allen complained that a silver watch valued at £2.2s.0d had been stolen from The Goat Inn on 12 April by Louisa Lister. The defendant was ordered to pay the sum of £1.8s.6d including costs or to serve 1 month in prison. One week was allowed for payment. Note: the presentation of information in this document is unclear. It may be that Louisa Lister was accusing John Allen of stealing the watch. The two names are shown in such a way that there is no explanation as to the roles of the two individuals.	1892/045
Bown	Mr			16	04	1892	Licence extension application	La	Mr Bown applied for a 1-hour extension of the alcohol licence in order to host a Wells Association Football supper on 20 April. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1892/046
Ridley	Ellen	Ridley	John	25	04	1892	Threats of assault	A	Ellen Ridley, now resident in Street, complained that her husband, John Ridley of St Thomas Street, had issued a variety of threats against her on 23 April and she feared that she would suffer grievous bodily harm. Note: Ellen Ridley had separated from her husband after a previous assault (see case 1892/041).	1892/047
Bisgood	John	Burgess	Alfred	28	04	1892	Drunk in charge of a horse	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Alfred Burgess of 12 Castle Street, Trowbridge, Wiltshire with being drunk in charge of a horse in High Street on 22 April. William Moore of South Street was called to provide evidence for the prosecution. Burgess was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs (although the costs were recorded as 17/3d); the fine was recorded as being paid.	1892/048

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Howell	John	Green	George Thomas	02	05	1892	Assault	A	John Howell of No 21 Southover complained that George Thomas Green late of Southover, bootmaker, had assaulted him and his wife on 2 May. Howell had been standing outside his front door at about 11 o'clock in the morning when Green had barged past him into the house, pushed Howell's wife aside (and nearly into the fire) and threatened them both with the hoe that he was carrying. Green then brought a planting stick from under his coat and threatened Howell both physically and verbally. Attracted by the shouting, Howell's neighbours on either side, Mary Ann Hammond from No 23 Southover and Maria Ashton from No 19 Southover, came to his assistance. Mary Ann Hammond caught hold of the hoe and took it from Green and between them they got Green out into the street where he cursed them and threatened them with violent retribution. Green pleaded not guilty to the charge of assault but was sentenced to one month in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1892/049
Justices		Various		12	05	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 May. These minutes are recorded in a highly summarised form with only minimal information. Most of the entries relate to cases documented in earlier entries. However there are references to three further cases that were apparently brought under the Education Act, but for which there are no other documents. These cases relate to: - John Haskins, whose wife attended the hearing and where the case was adjourned for a month; the same occurred at the petty sessions sitting of 9 June - Alfred Hatcher, whose wife attended the hearing and where the case was adjourned for a month; the same occurred at the petty sessions sitting on 9 June - Frank Parker, who attended the hearing personally and where the case was adjourned for a month; Parker did not appear at the hearing on 9 June and the case was adjourned for a further month.	1892/050
Rice	Emily			16	05	1892	Licence transfer application	La	Emily Rice of Hunter's Lodge applied for a temporary transfer of The Royal Oak. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 30/-.	1892/051

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Smith	James	23	05	1892	Dangerous dog	Dd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Smith of The New Inn in St Thomas Street with being the owner of a dangerous dog which was not kept under proper control. Frederick Guppy, Charles Henry Crocker, George Snooks and Charles Griffin, all of St Thomas Street, were summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Guppy stated that he had seen the dog nip a small boy, one of the Snooks children, on the leg, while Crocker noted that a number of children had been throwing stones at the dog which had then attacked one of Griffin's children. Ann Snooks and Amelia Griffin both noted that their children had not been badly hurt and neither had lost much blood. Ann Snooks also testified that James Smith had offered to pay for any treatment her child required. Police serjeant James Knight reported that he had received previous complaints about the dog and said that it should be regarded as dangerous. Smith was confirmed to be the owner of the dog and was ordered by the justices to keep the animal under proper control. He was also required to pay 10/- towards the costs of the case.	1892/052
Phipps	Esther Anna	Brooks	Elizabeth	23	05	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	Esther Anna Phipps of Silver Street, widow, complained that Elizabeth Brooks of Silver Street, wife of William Brooks, painter, had used obscene language in Silver Street on 19 May. Samuel Tyte of High Street and Gwen and William Chapple of Southover, both brushmakers, were summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Elizabeth Brooks pleaded guilty to the charge and was told to pay 5/- towards the costs of the case (the costs were recorded as 16/6d). Note: by the time of the hearing on 9 June Esther (or Hester) Phipps had become the wife of Henry Gavin but was still recorded as being resident in Silver Street.	1892/053
Justices		Various		09	06	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Summary minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 June. The minutes were recorded in highly abbreviated form. With two exceptions all cases are covered in earlier entries. One exception is an unspecified case against John Western which appears to have been adjourned for one month because of the illness of a police serjeant who was to have been a key witness. The other exception is covered in the entry below (see case 1892/055).	1892/054

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hansford	Edward	Hill	John	09	06	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Edward Hansford charged John Hill with being drunk and disorderly in Broad Street on 8 June. Hansford had been in Broad Street in plain clothes when Hill staggered across the road towards him and asked if he could find him a bed saying that he had plenty of money. Hansford tried to help him but when he revealed that he was a policeman Hill became very abusive and offered 4 men a sovereign to give the policeman a hiding. When Hill then staggered off down St John Street stopping passers by to ask for a bed, Hansford arrested him. Hill was found guilty and fined 2/6d with costs of 4/6d making a total of 7/- (See case 1892/054).	1892/055
Lansdown	Fanny	Collins	Frederick	28	06	1892	Threats of assault	A	Fanny Lansdown of Priest Row complained that Frederick Collins also of Priest Row, labourer, had issued threats of violence against her on 27 June and, as a result, she feared that she would suffer bodily injury at his hands. She requested that he be required to put forward sureties as to his future conduct. Fanny Lansdown also called upon Maria Hodges of Priest Row, spinster, and Kate Lansdown, wife of Joseph Lansdown of Tucker Street, labourer, to provide evidence in support of her case. In response, Martha Collins, wife of Frederick Collins summoned Harriett Trim of Priest Row, wife of George Trim, and Bessie Mardon of Priest Row, spinster, to testify on behalf of her husband. At the hearing on 14 July Fanny Lansdown testified that Frederick Collins had returned home at around 7.00pm and he was the worse for drink. She had been in her garden next door when he began to tease her son's dog and she told him to stop. Collins then complained that he had had little work for several weeks and was heavily out of pocket because of her son. He then began to abuse her and followed her into the (communal) washhouse where he made several violent threats against her. Some of these threats were confirmed by Maria Hodges and Kate Lansdown and even the defence witnesses testified that they had heard Collins say that he would shake her bloody guts out. Frederick Collins was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace and be of good conduct for the next 3 months, particularly towards Fanny Lansdown.	1892/056

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Welsh	Thomas	02	07	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	George Frederick Coles, landlord of The King's Head Inn, testified that his daughter had called him into the bar where a customer was causing trouble. Coles decided that it would be better if Thomas Welsh left the premises and after a short altercation Welsh was put outside onto High Street. At that point he began cursing and swearing and using obscene language to threaten Coles. Coles' version of events was supported by Gilbert Hobbs who had followed Welsh out of the inn. Welsh was found guilty and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1892/057
Police		Band	Clara	06	07	1892	Begging in the street	V	Clara Band was charged with begging in Sadler Street on 5 July. At the time of her arrest she had 11/2d in cash in her pockets. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1892/058
Justices		Various		11	07	1892	Administration of payments	*	Administrative session to arrange the payments to be made to special constables.	1892/059
Justices		Various		14	07	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 14 July. The major part of the hearing was devoted to the case of Fanny Lansdown against Frederick Collins (case 1892/056). The minutes also contain the testimony related to the case of John Brine (see case 1892/061 following) and this is the only documentation for that case.	1892/060
Hansford	Edward	Brine	John	14	07	1892	Assault on a police officer	A	John Brine was charged with an assault on PC Hansford on 13 July. George Hudson of The Crown Inn had trouble with Brine and asked him to leave the premises but Brine refused to go. Hudson went to the police station and asked for assistance. PC Hansford came to help, although he was not in police uniform. With the help of Hudson, PC Hansford was able to get Brine out onto the pavement, but Brine then sprang at Hansford and struck him on the side of the neck before attempting to run off down the yard. Some others from the inn tried to help him escape while Hansford and Hudson grappled with him. In the struggle Hansford asserted that Brine bit him on the hand. With assistance, Hansford got Brine to the police station where Brine attacked him again saying that he was a fighting man from Cardiff. Brine was found guilty of assault and fined £1.10s.0d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. (See case 1892/060).	1892/061

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Rich	John	18	07	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Rich was charged with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 9 July. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs.	1892/062
Police		Payne	Hester	18	07	1892	Theft of gold ring	T	Hester Payne was charged with the theft of a gold ring valued at 2/6d and the property of Flora Rivers. She was found guilty and fined 10/- plus costs or to spend 14 days in prison.	1892/063
Bowles	Thomas George	Lovelace	Percy	18	07	1892	Sexual assault	Sa	Thomas George Bowles of Broad Street, basket maker, and his wife, Louisa, alleged that Percy Lovelace of Broad Street, a bootmaker aged 18, had attempted to have unlawful carnal knowledge of his daughter, Florence Sarah Bowles aged 10, on 15 July. At a hearing on 13 September Percy Lovelace was bound over in the sum of £10 plus two sureties of £10 each from his father, William Robert Lovelace, and Albert Higgins of High Street to attend the petty sessions sitting on 16 September. At that sitting the evidence in the case was taken and Percy Lovelace was bailed to appear at the next session of the assizes. Bail was set at £25 together with 3 sureties of £25 each from William Robert Lovelace of No 19 Broad Street, Albert Higgins of No 72 High Street and James Willmott of No 65a High Street. The witnesses were bound over in the sum of £10 each to appear at the assizes.	1892/064
Police		Ball	Frederick	19	07	1892	Suspected lunacy	Lu	Police serjeant Knight arrested Frederick Ball as a potential lunatic as a result of Ball's erratic behaviour in the Market Place. Ball had a bag which appeared to contain grass or rubbish and he was trying to sell its contents to passers by. The contents appeared to be stinging nettles, ivy, dock and other plants. Ball had then begun strewing the contents of the bag across the road. Knight claimed that he knew Ball very well and he had noticed that his behaviour had of late become stranger and stranger. Ball was examined twice by Dr Bateman (Frederick John Brownfield Bateman to give him his full name) and he found that Ball answered his questions in an entirely rational manner. Ball admitted that he had had a fall some time ago and, as a result, frequently experienced pains in his head. Dr Bateman said that he could not certify Ball as a lunatic and there was no indication that Ball was suffering from any kind of delusion. Ball was discharged.	1892/065

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Webb	George	22	07	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	George Webb, a tramp, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Priory Road on 21 July. He was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour.	1892/066
Rodgers	Henry James			23	07	1892	Licence transfer application	La	Henry James Rodgers asked for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Red Ox Inn from Frederick Chappell. The request was granted on payment of the fee of 1/6d.	1892/067
Lovelace	William Robert	Lovell	Sarah	23	07	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	William Robert Lovelace of Broad Street, bootmaker, complained that Sarah Lovell of Broad Street had been using obscene language in Broad Street on 22 July. According to Lovelace and his wife, Kate, Sarah Lovell had been standing outside her door in the street and shouting insults about the Lovelace family, including references to a Lovelace boy being banished from town for an indecent assault on a young girl (see the case against Percy Lovelace in 1892/064). Sarah Lovell was found guilty of using profane and obscene language and sentenced to 14 days in prison in Shepton Mallet - but without hard labour.	1892/068
Knight	James	Ball	Frederick	25	07	1892	Begging	V	Kate Bagg, a servant at one of the properties in Chamberlain Street, complained that Frederick Ball had knocked on the door at around 8 o'clock in the evening and begged for a crust. She testified that Ball had been begging at the door on several previous occasions. Police serjeant James Knight had Ball taken into custody in view of his recent strange behaviour (see case 1892/065). Ball was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1892/069
Hansford	Edward	Payne	Hester	08	08	1892	Drunkenness	D	PC Hansford saw Hester Payne in a state of complete drunkenness near the Conduit. Payne was being supported by a man called John Dare who managed to get her to the Conduit and find a place where she could sit down. He refused to try and take her any further and as she was completely helpless PC Hansford and another person got her to the police station. Hester Payne was fined 2/6d with costs of 3/6d and was given until 20 August to pay. At the time of her arrest she had 1½d in cash on her person. Note: Hester Payne had recently been arrested for theft (see case 1892/063).	1892/070

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		08	08	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that certain parents had failed to ensure their child / children had attended school sufficiently often over the recent months. The individual cases are shown in the succeeding entries.	1892/071
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	Thomas	08	08	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Price of Mill Lane was charged with respect to his son, John. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, recorded that John Price, aged 11, had only made 27 attendances in the recent period when the school was open on 73 occasions. The hearing scheduled for 11 August was deferred for one month to 8 September.	1892/071a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	Thomas	08	08	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Price of Mill Lane was charged with respect to his son, Fred. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, recorded that Fred Price, aged 9, had only made 26 attendances in the recent period when the school was open on 73 occasions. The hearing scheduled for 11 August was adjourned for one month to 8 September.	1892/071b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	08	08	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Perry of Tucker Street was charged with respect to his son, James. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, recorded that James Perry the younger, aged 11, had not made any attendances in the recent period when the school was open on 83 occasions. In the previous year up to 30th April 1892 James had only made 152 attendances out of a possible 420. James Perry the younger was noted as having passed standard III. The hearing scheduled for 11 August was adjourned for one month to 8 September. James Perry's wife attended and the hearing was adjourned for another month to 13 October when the case was dismissed.	1892/071c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Browne	Frederick	08	08	1892	Cruelty to a horse	C	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Browne of Bath Road, bus driver, with cruelty to a horse in High Street on 4 August. Browne was said to have made the horse work when it was clearly not in a fit condition to do so. The case was subsequently withdrawn as a result of testimony which indicated that the horse's condition had been recognised and treatment had been applied, although the horse had suffered an accident which may have caused some of its sores to re-open. See also the case against Charles Robert Ackland who was Browne's employer (case 1892/073).	1892/072
Bisgood	John	Ackland	Charles Robert	08	08	1892	Cruelty to a horse	C	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Robert Ackland of The Mitre Hotel in Sadler Street, hotel proprietor, with cruelty to a horse on 4 August. Ackland was said to have made the horse work when it was clearly not in a fit condition to do so. PC Hansford had examined the horse in the yard at The Mitre and found a number of sores on its back and side which, in his view, made it inappropriate for the horse to be worked. It transpired, on further evidence, that some of the sores were quite old and had been treated with attempts made to provide a pad on the horse's back to prevent the sores rubbing and also adjustments to the harness. The horse had had an accident a few days before when it had fallen to its knees and this was thought to have caused some of the sores to re-open. Ackland pleaded not guilty and was discharged by the justices on the evidence that action had been taken to treat the horse (see testimony from Thomas Miller and Frederick Browne). Detailed testimony can be found in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 August (see case 1892/076).	1892/073

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Guardians of the Poor of Wells Union		Chamberlain	John	08	08	1892	Desertion of family	Ds	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Guardians of the Poor of Wells Union, complained that John Chamberlain of South Street had refused to maintain his children and as a result they had become chargeable to the Common Fund with effect from 28 May 1892. The children affected were William aged 7, Charles aged 5, Agnes aged 4, and Ernest aged 18 months. John Chamberlain was assessed as being able to work and to maintain the children. As he lived within the In Parish of St Cuthbert he fell under the jurisdiction of the justices who ordered that, with effect from 13 August, he should contribute the sum of 2/6d per week to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor for the maintenance of his children and he should continue to make these contributions until they were able to maintain themselves. In addition, John Chamberlain was also required to pay 8/- to cover the costs of the case. Note: one of the documents refers to Joseph Chamberlain aged 9 as being the eldest of 5 children of John Chamberlain who were taken into care. However, all other documents omit reference to Joseph.	1892/074

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Rich	John	08	08	1892	Indecent exposure	le	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Rich of Sadler Street, labourer, with indecent exposure in Chamberlain Street on 24 July. Florence Chilcott and Mary Pearce were summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. The case was scheduled to be heard on 11 August, but on 9 August there was a further complaint from Frances Tucker of Coxley Wick alleging another incident of indecent exposure by Rich, this time on the Glastonbury Road, on 8 August where she was the victim of his action. The hearing of the case was then adjourned to 12 September.</p> <p>At that hearing Florence Chilcote, a servant at Dr Livett's, testified that she, together with the cook (possibly Mary Pearce?), had encountered Rich several times on Sunday evenings close to the Roman Catholic chapel in Chamberlain Street, usually with his clothing disarranged and he had made a number of nasty remarks to them. Rich pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 14 days in prison at Shepton Mallet.</p> <p>Frances Tucker and Alma Tucker of Yeovil, governess, had encountered Rich on the Glastonbury Road near the mile post to Broad Street and he walked along in the fields or in the road as far as the Wells Union exposing his person throughout. Alma Tucker corroborated this testimony. Rich again pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.</p>	1892/075
Justices		Various		11	08	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 August. The minutes provide detailed testimony of the case(s) against Frederick Browne and Charles Robert Ackland (see cases 1892/072 and 1892/073). In addition the minutes also note the granting of the transfer of the alcohol licence for The Crown Inn to George Hudson on payment of the fee of 30/- and that for The Red Ox Inn to Henry James Rogers on payment of the fee of 31/-.	1892/076
Bisgood	John	White	James	18	08	1892	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James White of Coxley with wilfully obstructing the highway in High Street on 9 August by parking a carriage there. PC Perrett stated that the carriage was parked in High Street outside The King's Head from 10.40hrs to 12.55hrs, but he did not see White. White pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs (although the costs were actually recorded as 8/-).	1892/077

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Bennett	William	18	08	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Bennett of South Street, haulier, with being drunk and disorderly on Cathedral Green on 12 August. Police serjeant James Knight testified that at around 11.00pm Bennett had been near the clock in St Andrew Street where he was very drunk and being led by two other men. Bennett was also using very bad language. Bennett was found guilty and fined 5/- with costs of 8/-. The sum of 13/- was recorded as being paid.	1892/078
Hansford	Edward	Churchill	William	22	08	1892	Drunkenness	D	William Churchill was charged with being drunk on Cathedral Green on 21 August. Churchill pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay the costs of the case of 4/6d. This sum was recorded as paid.	1892/079
Hansford	Edward	Waters	Michael	22	08	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	Michael Waters, who lived at the asylum as an attendant, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on 21 August in High Street. Waters pleaded guilty to the charge. PC Hansford testified that Waters had been very drunk, used a good deal of bad language, and supposedly accosted young girls. Waters was fined 2/6d with costs of 7/-.	1892/080
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		23	08	1892	Failure to pay general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that various individuals had not paid the general district rate set on 4 April 1892. The individuals affected and the amounts of debt involved are recorded in the succeeding entries.	1892/081
Jenkins	William Henry	Wickham	Charles	23	08	1892	Failure to pay general district rate	N	Charles Wickham of Priory Place was recorded as owing 13/1d for the general district rate. He was allowed until Wednesday to pay this sum, but, if he did not do so, then he would incur a further 2/6d in costs which would bring the outstanding debt to 15/7d.	1892/081a
Jenkins	William Henry	Keniston	Henry	23	08	1892	Failure to pay general district rate	N	Henry Keniston of Southover was recorded as owing 6/1d for the general district rate. He was allowed until Saturday to pay this sum, but, if he did not do so, then he would incur a further 2/6d in costs which would bring the outstanding debt to 8/7d.	1892/081b
Jenkins	William Henry	Hill	Sidney	23	08	1892	Failure to pay general district rate	N	Sidney Hill of New Street was recorded as owing 4/9d for the general district rate, plus a possible further 2/6d for costs. Hill's debt was recorded as being settled.	1892/081c
Jenkins	William Henry	Fuller	John	23	08	1892	Failure to pay general district rate	N	John Fuller of St Thomas Terrace was recorded as owing 19/3d for the general district rate, plus a possible further 2/6d for costs. Fuller's debt was recorded as being settled.	1892/081d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		27	08	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 27 August. All the cases heard are documented in earlier entries.	1892/082
Police				08	09	1892	Report on alcohol licences	*	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, delivered the annual police report on alcohol licensing in Wells. He reported that there were 21 fully licensed houses, 13 beer houses, 1 off licence and 2 grocers' licences, making a total of 37. The population of the town was given as 4822 and during the year there had been 23 convictions for drunkenness in comparison with 26 in the previous year.	1892/083
Justices		Various		08	09	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of a petty sessions sitting on 8 September. The minutes are presented in very summarised form. It was noted that the annual renewal of alcohol licences had taken place and all had been renewed. Additionally, a one-hour extension for that evening was granted to Mr Bennett. Three other cases are mentioned but with no meaningful information about the nature of the cases. The defendants were James Perry whose case was adjourned for one month, Thomas Price who was discharged and John Rich who was remanded in custody pending a further hearing on charges of indecent exposure (see case 1892/075 for more details related to John Rich).	1892/084
Bisgood	John	Lane	James	08	09	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Lane of Shepton Mallet, blacksmith, with being drunk and disorderly in Palace Walk on 28 August. PC Rapson saw Lane staggering along and being supported by a woman; he was swearing loudly. PC Rapson cautioned him, but this provoked Lane to become more excited and his language to become worse. Lane was fined 5/- with costs of 9/8d or to serve 14 days in prison in Shepton Mallet.	1892/085
Bisgood	John	Bryant Russell	Arthur William	08	09	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Arthur Bryant and William Russell, both of North Wootton, with using profane and obscene language in Southover on 27 August. PC Rapson stopped both men as they were walking along Southover in high spirits and cautioned them about their foul and disgusting language. They appeared to listen and then soon after they set off again they resumed their shouting and swearing. Each was fined 5/- with costs of 5/5d; all sums were recorded as paid.	1892/086

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Wells Water Company		Francis Francis	John Humphries Leonard Robert	08	09	1892	Theft of water	T	Charles Vincent Bennett of the Wells Water Company complained that John Humphries Francis and Leonard Robert Francis, both of Castle Cary, had unlawfully attached a 3/4 inch service pipe to a 1/2 inch service pipe belonging to Wells Water Company without the company's consent in writing; this action had taken place in Priest Row in the month of August. Leonard Robert Francis appeared at the hearing and pleaded guilty. He was fined 10/- with costs of 9/-; the sum of 19/- was recorded as paid.	1892/087
Ackland	Charles Robert	Brown	Fred	12	09	1892	Drunk in charge of horse and omnibus	D	Charles Robert Ackland of The Mitre Hotel alleged that Fred Brown of Bath Road, omnibus driver, was drunk in Sadler Street while in charge of a horse and omnibus. Brown pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- with costs of 8/-, all to be paid immediately; these sums were recorded as paid. Note: an earlier case showed that Brown was an employee of Ackland and was the omnibus driver for The Mitre Hotel (see case 1892/072).	1892/088

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Brown	Charles	Wells Water Company		13	09	1892	Digging up roadway without authority	H	Charles Brown, surveyor for the City of Wells, complained that the Wells Water Company had dug up the roadway in St Cuthbert Street on 13 September without providing the statutory notification to the Wells Urban Sanitary Authority, the legal owners of the road. Summons were issued to George Lilly of Queen Street and James Standard of South Street to give evidence for the prosecution and to Charles Vincent Bennett of St Andrew Street and George Lilly of Queen Street to give evidence on behalf of the Wells Water Company. Charles Brown asserted that he had received no notice of the work to be undertaken but Charles Bennett, manager of the Wells Water Company, stated that he had personally completed the appropriate forms and would have despatched them to the Urban Sanitary Authority by special messenger as that was the normal process. He claimed that this was done on 22 June and that the primary work of laying a new main was assessed at 22 hours; it was possible that subsidiary activities to complete the work may have taken place later since work could often be delayed for various reasons. The case was dismissed. Note: it is not clear why summons were issued to George Lilly to appear for both the prosecution and the defence, but, in the event, Lilly's name is not mentioned in the minutes when the case was heard.	1892/089
Justices		Various		16	09	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 16 September. All the cases heard at this session are dealt with separately in earlier entries.	1902/090

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Guardians of Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	17	09	1892	Absconding from Wells Union	Ab	Frederick William Osman, master of Wells Union, complained that Thomas Henry Hucker had absconded yet again. He had been admitted as a casual pauper for 3 months but had discharged himself on the morning of 16 September but then returned later in the evening and agreed that he would need to stay until Wednesday morning. He then told Osman that he wanted to leave at 11.00 o'clock the next morning but by 9.45 he had absconded. Hucker was arrested early that afternoon near The Mermaid Inn by PC Walter Paul. Hucker pleaded not guilty to the charge of absconding but was convicted and sentenced to two calendar months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: a list enclosed with the case documentation recorded Hucker's previous convictions; the first, in December 1888 was for vagrancy and the second, in May 1890 was for larceny. There were then 6 convictions for absconding from the workhouse with prison sentences totalling 16 months before the current conviction.	1892/091
Police		Perry	James	19	09	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	James Perry was charged with being drunk and disorderly at around midnight on the previous Saturday evening in High Street. At the time of his arrest Perry had 2/21/2d on his person. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs, the sum to be paid forthwith.	1892/092
Police		Ball	Frederick	20	09	1892	Begging in the street	V	Fred Ball was charged with begging in St Thomas Street on 19 September. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to one calendar month in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1892/093
Damerel	Samuel	Parker Marsh Cribb Millar	Richard Henry Henry William	26	09	1892	Infringement of local bye-laws	Br	Samuel Damerel, caretaker at the Wells recreation ground, complained that the defendants had been throwing stones and other missiles in the recreation ground on 16 September in contravention of the local bye-laws. The defendants, all described as children, were listed as: - Richard Parker of South Street - Henry Marsh of Town Hall Buildings - Henry Cribb of Town Hall Buildings and - William Millar of South Street.	1892/094

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Damerel	Samuel	Parker Marsh Cribb Millar	Richard Henry Henry William	26	09	1892	Infringement of local bye-laws	Br	Samuel Damerel, caretaker at the Wells recreation ground, complained that the defendants had used improper and indecent language in the recreation ground on 16 September in contravention of the local bye-laws. The defendants, all described as children, were listed as: - Richard Parker of South Street - Henry Marsh of Town Hall Buildings - Henry Cribb of Town Hall Buildings and - William Millar of South Street. Damerel identified Parker and Cribb as the main culprits. The defendants were each fined 1/- and all the fines were recorded as paid.	1892/095
Damerel	Samuel	Parker	Richard	26	09	1892	Wilful damage	Wd	Samuel Damerel, caretaker at the Wells recreation ground, complained that on 16 September Richard Parker had deliberately and wilfully broken a pane of glass in the barn at the recreation ground by throwing a stone at it. The value of the damage was assessed as being 2/6d. Parker was discharged by the justices.	1892/096
Bisgood	John	Lemon	James	27	09	1892	Asleep while driving horse and cart	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Lemon of Burcott, carter, with being asleep while driving a horse and waggon along Cathedral Green on 15 September and therefore not being in a position to control the movement of the horse and the attached vehicle. Lemon pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1892/097
Collins	Edwin Adolphus	Paul	James Robert	29	09	1892	Eviction notice	Ev	Edwin Adolphus Collins was acting as the agent for Robert Isgar. In this role he had let the property at No 23 St John Street to James Robert Paul in October 1890. The property had been let on a week by week basis at a rent of 2/6d per week. Paul was served a notice to quit the property on 29 August and he then refused to pay any rent until the property was done up. On 20 September Paul was served notice of the intention to apply for an eviction notice. The justices issued an order that stated possession should be granted to Collins on 22 October.	1892/098

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Guardians of Wells Union		Uphill	Frank	30	09	1892	Refusal to work	Rw	Frederick William Osman, master of Wells Union, complained that Frank Uphill had refused to work, despite being asked on several occasions by Charles Blizzard, porter, and Osman himself. Uphill said that he had neither the strength nor breath to move potatoes. Osman then tried to move Uphill to the refractory ward but Uphill resisted and attempted to strike and kick him. Uphill was eventually locked up and the police summoned. Uphill was sentenced to serve a prison sentence of 21 days with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1892/099
Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor		Various		01	10	1892	Non-payment of poor rate	N	The churchwardens and overseers of the poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert complained that a number of individuals had failed to pay the poor rate set on 7 May 1892. The individuals concerned and the amounts involved are shown in the succeeding entries. In addition, the churchwardens and overseers of the poor considered the applications of individuals to be excused payment of the poor rate on the grounds of poverty. They granted an exemption to Thomas Hancock of No 19 St Thomas Street who was excused payment on the assessed rate of 3/4d.	1892/100
Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor		Weaver	Elijah	01	10	1892	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Elijah Weaver of High Street was noted as owing 7/1d for the poor rate plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 9/7d. The debt was recorded as paid.	1892/100a
Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor		Chappell	Frederick William	01	10	1892	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Frederick William Chappell of Ethel Street was noted as owing 2/6d for the poor rate plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 5/-. The debt was recorded as paid.	1892/100b
Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor		Miller	John	01	10	1892	Non-payment of poor rate	N	John Miller of Priest Row was noted as owing 1/8d for the poor rate plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 4/2d. The debt was recorded as paid.	1892/100c
Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor		Wickham	Charles Cornish	01	10	1892	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Charles Cornish Wickham of Priory Place Row was noted as owing 6/3d for the poor rate plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 8/9d. The debt was recorded as paid on 14 October, although the costs were shown as remitted.	1892/100d
Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor		Fuller	John	01	10	1892	Non-payment of poor rate	N	John Fuller of St Thomas Terrace was noted as owing 9/2d for the poor rate plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 11/8d. The debt was recorded as paid, although the costs were shown as remitted.	1892/100e
Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor		Davis	John	01	10	1892	Non-payment of poor rate	N	John Davis of St Thomas Street was noted as owing 3/4d for the poor rate plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 5/10d. The debt was recorded as paid.	1892/100f

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Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor		Hancock	Thomas	01	10	1892	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Thomas Hancock of St Thomas Street was noted as owing 3/4d for the poor rate plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 5/10d. Thomas Hancock was excused payment on the grounds of poverty.	1892/100g
Standard	Emily Jane	Standard	James	04	10	1892	Assault	A	Emily Jane Standard of No 13 South Street complained that her husband, James Standard of the same address, had assaulted and beaten her on 4 October and had issued a series of threats against her person that made her fear that she would suffer bodily injury at his hands. In particular, he had grabbed a knife and threatened to stab her and then had suggested that he would use a chopper on her when she was asleep. She requested that he be required to put forward sureties to ensure his future behaviour towards her. James Standard admitted the charge and was bound over in the sum of £10 to keep the peace, particularly with respect to his wife, Emily Jane, for the next 3 months. However, because of their poverty, the costs of the case were remitted.	1892/101
Bisgood	John	Wickenden	Frederick Benjamin	07	10	1892	Offence against Bread Act	Wm	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Benjamin Wickenden of High Street, baker, with selling a loaf of bread to Henry Eno for a fixed sum of money, namely 2 ¹ / ₂ d rather than by weight. The law required that this particular type of bread should be sold by weight. At the hearing Wickenden pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay the costs of the case amounting to 17/2d; this sum was recorded as paid.	1892/102
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		10	10	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Board, complained that certain parents had failed to send their child to school sufficiently often as required by the law. The names of the parents and the children affected are shown in subsequent entries.	1892/103
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	James	10	10	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Price of Tor Street was summoned with respect to his son, Thomas. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the months of June, July and September Thomas, aged 12, had only made 48 attendances when the school was open on 107 occasions. James Price's wife attended the hearing on 13 October when the case was adjourned for one month to see if attendance improved or if a medical certificate were provided. James Price's wife attended the hearing on 10 November when her husband was discharged.	1892/103a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hawkins	Charles	10	10	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Charles Hawkins of St Thomas Street was summoned with respect to his son, Charles Hawkins the younger, who was recorded as being 11 years of age. Details of the child's attendances over the last 3 months were not completed by William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, nor was any indication given of the educational standard reached by the child. The hearing on this case was adjourned for one month for a birth certificate for the child to be produced to determine whether or not he was of appropriate school age (i.e. between 5 and 13). At the hearing on 10 November Charles Hawkins' wife attended and her husband was discharged.	1892/103b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	10	10	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Perry of Tucker Street was summoned with respect to his son, Frederick. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Frederick, aged 8, had only made 8 attendances in the recent period when the school was open on 64 occasions. James Perry's wife attended the hearing on 13 October when the case was adjourned for a month. At the hearing on 10 November, again attended by James Perry's wife, the case was adjourned for a further month.	1892/103c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Summers	Mary	10	10	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Summers of St Thomas Street was summoned with respect to her son, George aged 9. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that George had only made 81 attendances in the recent period when the school was open on 107 occasions. Mary Summers appeared at the hearing where the case against her was dismissed.	1892/103d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burrige	Charles	10	10	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Charles Burrige of Union Street was summoned with respect to his daughter, Gertrude. A E Cooke, principal teacher at the Central Infants School, reported that Gertrude, aged 5, had made only 5 attendances in the recent 3-month period when the school was open on 122 occasions. Charles Burrige's wife appeared at the hearing where the case was dismissed on production of a certificate (presumed to be evidence of the child's age).	1892/103e

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Burridge	Charles	10	10	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Charles Burridge of Union Street was summoned with respect to his daughter, Emily. L C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School reported that Emily had made only 32 appearances in the recent 2-month period when the school was open on 84 occasions. Charles Burridge's wife appeared at the hearing where the justices ordered a fine of 2/6d to be paid.	1892/103f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	King	John	10	10	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John King of St John Street was summoned with respect to his daughter, Kate. Lucy C Knight, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Kate, aged 12, had made only 45 appearances in the recent 2-month period when the school was open on 84 occasions. Kate was recorded as having passed standard IV. John King's wife appeared at the hearing where the case was dismissed.	1892/103g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Paul	William	10	10	1892	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Paul of South Street was summoned with respect to his son, Edgar. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Edgar, aged 10, had made only 52 attendances in the recent period when the school had been open on 84 occasions. William Paul's wife appeared at the hearing where the case was dismissed.	1892/103h
Bennett	W J			11	10	1892	Licence extension application	La	W J Bennett of The White Hart Inn applied for an extension of the alcohol licence for one hour on 12 October to allow him to host the Conservative Club dinner. The request was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1892/104
Justices		Various		13	10	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 October. All the cases heard at this session are shown in earlier entries which incorporate details of the testimony and the outcome.	1892/105
Walton Bennett Castle	T N William Frederick			24	10	1892	Licence extension application or transfer	La	T N Walton applied for an extension of his alcohol licence by one hour to host a Forrester's dinner. This was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. William Bennett applied for an extension of his alcohol licence by one hour to host an Oddfellows' dinner. This was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Frederick Castle applied for a temporary transfer of the licence for The Lamb Inn in Bath Road. The application was granted.	1892/106

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Perrett	William	Watts	Arthur	24	10	1892	Disorderly conduct Using obscene language Assault	Bp Pr A	Harriett Coles, wife of the landlord of The King's Head Inn, testified that Arthur Watts had been guilty of disorderly conduct in the inn on 23 October. He had ordered some drinks and when she took him the change he tried to grab her and kiss her, but she shook him off and went back to the bar. She then heard Watts using obscene language and told him to leave the premises if he was going to use such language. She was supported in this by Mr Green. Watts then got annoyed, upset the table and the drinks and attempted to strike both Green and the landlady. At that point George Frederick Coles, the landlord, came in and grabbed Watts to get him outside. In the struggle Coles claimed that Watts had struck him twice in the face with his fist and also seized his whiskers once Coles had pinned him to the ground in the passageway. The police were called and PC Perrott came to arrest Watts who put up a fight before Perrott was able to handcuff him. Watts was fined 20/- including costs for disorderly conduct and bad language. He pleaded guilty to the charge of assault and was fined £3 with costs of 3/6d.	1892/107
Knight	James	Edwards	Mary	26	10	1892	Abandoning baby	It	On 7 October a baby was found abandoned under a tree by the gate of the Wells Union workhouse by Edward Teal, an inmate. The baby was estimated to be around 3 months old and was both well dressed and reasonably cared for. After some investigation police serjeant James Knight went to the Coombs family home in North Wootton where Mary Edwards was working as a domestic servant. She admitted that the baby was hers and said she had put it there because her mother would not allow her to take it home because it was illegitimate and she thought that it would be well looked after there. She had recently been working in Cardiff and this baby had been born there. Previously she had lived in Bristol and had married there about 5 years ago. She had had one child by her husband but he had run away and left her. She pleaded for clemency from the magistrates but they found her guilty of abandoning the child and imposed a fine of £5 including costs or a prison sentence of one month with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1892/108

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Embry	William	Trenchard	Benjamin	29	10	1892	Assault	A	William Embry of High Street, grocer, complained that he had been assaulted by Benjamin Trenchard of Wookey Hole Lane on 25 October. Albert John Tate of High Street, wine merchant, was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Embry testified that he had been driving back from Wookey Hole to Wells and had been passing Trenchard's house when Trenchard had come out and gestured to him to stop, saying that his mother wanted to talk to him. Embry went in to talk to Trenchard's mother who immediately asked him to pay him their expenses. Embry stated that it was nothing to do with him and it related to a case (of bastardy) brought against him by one of Mrs Trenchard's daughters where he had denied the accusation that she made (see case 1892/118). Embry described the daughter as a liar and a loose and common girl and he was fully aware of her character as he had employed her for 16 or 17 months. Bernard Trenchard then threatened him if Embry called his sister such names, but Embry then repeated his opinion and Trenchard struck him, cutting both upper and lower lips. Embry had then left and gone back to Wells where he met Tate who confirmed that Embry had sustained a bloody cut to the mouth. Bernard Trenchard was fined 1/- with costs of 11/6d; the sum of 12/6d was recorded as paid.	1892/109
Police		Smith	John	29	10	1892	Absconding from Wells Union	Ab	John Smith was charged with absconding without leave from Wells Union on 29 October. Smith pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: the surname of the defendant is not clear and could be something other than Smith.	1892/110
Justices		Various		10	11	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 November. All the cases heard relate to prosecutions under the Education Act (see case 1892/103 and its subsidiary cases for the outcomes).	1892/111
Knight	James	Ford	George	14	11	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight charged George Ford of St Thomas Street, labourer, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 12 November. Ford pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs.	1892/112
Hull	Elizabeth	Dancy	Sarah	15	11	1892	Assault	A	Elizabeth Hull of Cheddar Valley Cottages complained that she had been assaulted by Sarah Dancy of No 5 Cheddar Valley Cottages. The case was noted as being settled out of court.	1892/113

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Coombs	Jane	Cleak	Mary	15	11	1892	Eviction notice	Ev	Jane Coombs, the owner of No 7 Union Street, had rented a room in that property to Mary Cleak from 24 June 1892 on a weekly basis at a rent of 1/- per week; Jane Coombs herself occupied the other part of the property. Mary Cleak had apparently been unreliable in paying the rent and was 2 weeks in arrears early in November. Jane Coombs made more than one request for her to leave and on 15 November served notice that on 24 November she would apply for an eviction notice. This application was made and granted by the justices with an expiry period of 30 days.	1892/114
Salter	William	Gollege	Edgar	17	11	1892	Non-payment of regimental fines	N	William Salter of Burcot Road, serjeant major in the Wells Troop of the North Somerset Yeomanry, complained that Edgar Gollege of Chewton Mendip, a private in that same troop, was refusing to pay fines incurred under regimental rules. The fines in question totalled £2.6s.0d. A note on the front of the documentation recorded that the case had been settled out of court.	1892/115
Bisgood	John	Stevens	Henry	17	11	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Stevens of South Street with using obscene language in South Street on 5 November. Stevens pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs of 8/-. Note: a small additional document records a previous conviction in April 1891 for a similar offence for which Stevens was fined 10/- with costs of 5/2d (see case 1891/046).	1892/116

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Wheeler	Richard	29	11	1892	Forging livestock movement certificate	Fy	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Richard Wheeler of Glastonbury, livestock dealer, with forging a livestock movement certificate. Wheeler had brought some pigs for sale at the market in Wells on 12 November and presented a livestock movement licence purporting to be signed by someone called Frederick Tratt, but this document turned out to be a forgery. Wheeler had in fact bought the pigs from Henry Tratt, Frederick Tratt's son, and had sent his own son to collect them from Tratt's farm at Catcott. Henry Tratt testified that his father was absent at the time of both of these events. When the livestock movement declaration supposedly signed by Frederick Tratt was compared with a similar document signed by Wheeler, the handwriting on both documents appeared to be identical. Wheeler said that the handwriting was his daughter's and she admitted preparing the documents at her father's request. The forged document even showed an incorrect figure for the number of pigs purchased, 9 instead of 10. Wheeler was found guilty of forging the movement certificate and fined £2 including costs which were recorded as being £1.7s.4d.	1892/117
Trenchard	Lucy	Embry	William	02	12	1892	Bastardy	B	Lucy Trenchard of Wookey Hole Lane, single woman, testified that she had been delivered of a bastard child on 6 November and named the putative father as William Embry of High Street, grocer (see also case 1892/109).	1892/118
Police		Biss	John	05	12	1892	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Biss was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Union Street on 4 December. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- plus costs of 4/6d.	1892/119
Justices		Various		08	12	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 8 December. All cases heard are documented in earlier entries. Two licence extension applications are noted in the entries below.	1892/120
George Dumbleton	Mr/Ms Mr			08	12	1892	Licence extension applications	La	Mr/Ms George applied for an all night extension (11.00pm to 6.00am) for The Swan to host the county ball. Mr Dumbleton applied for a one-hour extension for that evening to host a supper event; the application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. (See case 1892/120).	1892/121

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Drew	William	10	12	1892	Larceny	T	William Drew was charged with stealing a bowl on 9 December. He was found guilty and sentenced to 6 strokes of the birch rod. The stolen bowl was to be returned to R Foster. Note: the nature of the sentence presumes that Drew was a young offender.	1892/122
Ball	Mary Ann	Ball	William	15	12	1892	Threatened assault	A	Mary Ann Ball of No 13 Tucker Street complained that her husband, William Ball, was constantly abusing her and issuing threats against her life, usually when he was in drink. Mary Ann Ball initially commenced the case against her husband on 13 December and then received further threats from him, prompting her to renew her charges against him on 15 December. She lived in fear of him doing her severe bodily harm and requested that her husband be required to put forward sureties as to his future conduct, particularly towards her. Elizabeth Western and Emma Cattle, near neighbours of the Balls, confirmed that William Ball had been drinking heavily and had threatened to set fire to his wife and the house. William Ball was required to put forward a surety of £5 and provide an additional surety of £5 from John Andrews of Queen Street as a guarantee of his future conduct, particularly towards his wife, for the next 6 months; if he was unwilling to do this, then he would be committed to prison for one month.	1892/123
Bisgood	John	Nokes	George	19	12	1892	Cruelty to a calf	C	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Nokes of Masbury, labourer, with cruelty to a calf on 3 December by violently beating the animal with a stick. Police serjeant James Knight saw Nokes driving the calf along near the Market Place by pushing it with his knee and then hitting it with his stick. The calf was only 3 days old, had been made to walk from the other side of Masbury and was thoroughly exhausted. Nokes was fined 10/- including costs which amounted to 9/-.	1892/124

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Baker Allen	James William	19	12	1892	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Baker of St Cuthbert Street, hawker, and William Allen also of St Cuthbert Street, labourer, with using obscene language in St Cuthbert Street. PC Rapson reported that James Baker had been in the street and appeared to be having an argument with his wife when Allen interfered. This resulted in an a row between the two men with both of them using bad language. Rapson tried to intervene and get them both to go home but, with neighbours complaining about their conduct, he charged them both. Allen pleaded guilty and Baker not guilty, but both were ordered to pay 5/- each including costs.	1892/125
Bisgood	John	Puddy	Samuel	19	12	1892	Forging livestock movement certificate	Fy	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Samuel Puddy of Wedmore, livestock dealer, with forging a livestock movement licence in relation to a group of 10 sheep which he made available for sale at the market in Wells on 10 December. George Clarke of Old Wood, Wedmore, was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Puddy was ordered to pay 9/6d including costs (which came to 9/6d!).	1892/126
Justices		Various		28	12	1892	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 28 December. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries except for the case of Eliza Eddington which is covered in the succeeding entry.	1892/127
Police		Eddington	Eliza	28	12	1892	Drunkenness	D	Eliza Eddington was charged with being drunk in a public place on 27 December. She was discharged on condition that she left the city that day. (See case 1892/127).	1892/128

1893

									The Archives have no records of petty sessions data relating to 1893. However, in the bundle of documents for 1894 there are a small number of cases where the legal process is initiated in 1893. These cases are shown below, but the related documents are held in the document box for 1891/92.	
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Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Cox	Henry	Wren	Charles	19	12	1893	Theft of purse, knife and money	T	Henry Cox of Langport, labourer, complained that on 18 December Charles Wren of Wells, labourer, had stolen from him a purse valued at 1d, a knife valued at 3d and 7/- in money. Cox had gone into The Full Moon Inn in search of lodgings for the night but the landlord was unable to accommodate him. Wren was already in the bar and he suggested that Cox might find a room for the night at The Railway Tavern where he was lodging. The two men went there together and Cox was able to obtain a room. They had supper together and Cox lent Wren a knife to cut a piece of rabbit to share between them. Cox's testimony averred that Wren had given him back the knife a few minutes later, but Wren stated that he had not returned the knife at that point. The two men had then gone to bed in separate rooms (although, according to Wren, Cox had suggested that they might share a room/bed) but when Cox awoke in the morning he claimed to be missing his purse and its contents and his knife which were no longer in his trouser pockets. By this time Wren had already left and when Cox caught up with him later in the morning he accused Wren of the theft of the missing items. Wren returned the knife to him, saying that he had never given it back to him on the previous evening, but denied any knowledge of the purse. Cox summoned the police and police serjeant James Knight questioned both men; he also searched Wren, but found no money on him. Cox's purse had already been found in the ashes of the grate at The Railway Tavern. The innkeeper, Thomas Brophy, stated that he had seen Wren counting money in his room immediately before bed but could not say how much money Wren had been counting. Other testimony was obtained from Henry Wooley who had also been staying at the inn and who had found the purse and Alfred Hatcher of South Street, mason's labourer, who had encountered Wren on the morning after the supposed theft and had enjoyed a drink with him in Difford's house (probably The Golden Heart in St John Street). However, none of the information received clearly supported the accusation made by Cox and the case against Wren was dismissed.	1893/001

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Pearce	William	19	12	1893	Owning a dog without a valid licence	DI	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Pearce of Southover, labourer, with keeping a dog over the age of 6 months without having a valid licence. The offence was identified on 11 December 1893 and the case was intended to be heard on 11 January, but was postponed until the following month. At the hearing on 8 February Pearce pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1893/002
Furze	John	Wren Smith	Charles William	20	12	1893	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC John Furze charged Charles Wren and William Smith with being drunk and disorderly in Tucker Street and other locations on 19 December. Initially PC Furze had found the two men fighting in Broad Street. After he intervened and told them to leave town, they then moved on to The Mermaid Tap where the landlord refused to serve them and then to The Cheddar Valley Inn. Both men were drunk and using profane and obscene language. PC Furze arrested Smith and enlisted the help of Mr Coles to keep hold of Smith while he arrested Wren. Both men were found guilty of being drunk and disorderly and using foul language and each received a sentence of 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1893/003

1894

Nation	Robert			04	01	1894	Licence transfer application	La	Robert Nation applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Forresters' Arms from C Ilford. The transfer request was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1894/001
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Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Knight	James	Butler	Elizabeth	04	01	1894	Fraud	Fr	Police serjeant James Knight charged Elizabeth Butler with fraudulently using a false petition to beg money / contributions from individuals. A number of complaints had been received by the police about Elizabeth Butler attempting to solicit donations by asking individuals to contribute to a petition. Lionel Crosse and Richard Knight, the latter a shop owner, were two people who made such complaints. Elizabeth Butler pleaded not guilty and denied that she had multiple petitions on her person. This assertion proved to be untrue as she found at least one more when police serjeant Knight said that she would be searched. Butler claimed that her purse had been stolen by some boys when she was in Frome and therefore did not have the money corresponding to the supposed subscriptions listed on her petitions; however she had not reported the apparent theft to the proprietor of the lodging house or the police. When searched, she was found to have 8/0 ¹ / ₄ d in cash which she claimed was to pay for her rail fare to Plymouth. Elizabeth Butler also had a valid pedlar's certificate which was due to expire in February. The case against her was dismissed, but her petition letters were to be destroyed and the police were instructed to buy her train ticket to Plymouth with the money that she had on her person.	1894/002
Bisgood	John	Gooding	Charles	04	01	1894	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Gooding of Meare, turf merchant, with wilfully obstructing the highway in Broad Street by parking his horse and cart there. Charles Gooding pleaded guilty and was fined 1/- plus costs of 6/-. The sum of 7/- was recorded as being paid.	1894/003

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Langley	Charles	Langley	Simeon	04	01	1894	Breach of the peace	Bp	Charles Langley of South Street, labourer, complained that on 26 December 1893 his father, Simeon Langley, had forced his way into his house uninvited and then proceeded to act in a disorderly and unruly manner, refusing to leave even when asked to do so by Charles Langley, thereby committing a breach of the peace. Simeon Langley was eventually forcibly evicted by the police. He was found guilty of the offence and ordered to enter into a recognizance of £10 from himself, plus a surety of a further £10, to keep the peace, particularly towards Charles Langley, for a period of 12 months. The surety of £10 was provided by Richard Cornish of Coxley, haulier, who committed to £5, and Charles George Francis and James Bennett, both of Coxley and both described as hauliers, who committed to £2.10s.0d each. In addition, Simeon Langley was required to pay 9/- to cover the costs of the case. If he were to default on his commitment, then Simeon Langley would be sent to prison for three calendar months.	1894/004
Langley	Charles	Langley	Simeon	04	01	1894	Wilful damage	Wd	Charles Langley of South Street, labourer, complained that on 26 December, when his father, Simeon Langley, had broken into his house by forcing the lock and proceeded to act in a disorderly and unruly manner (see case 1894/004), Simeon Langley had wilfully damaged a number of articles of glass and china belonging to Charles Langley. Charles Langley assessed the value of the items damaged as being between 8/- and 10/- but said that the articles had sentimental value because they had been given to him by his sister before she left the area. Simeon Langley said that all the items were his property and he would do with them what he liked. Simeon Langley pleaded not guilty but was found guilty of wilful damage; he was ordered to pay 10/- for the damage and 7/- for the costs of the case or to spend 14 days in prison with hard labour. He chose to go to prison.	1894/005
Police		Lane	John	05	01	1894	Drunkenness	D	John Lane was charged with being drunk at the GWR station in Wells on 4 January. He pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- with costs of 6/6d. These sums were recorded as paid.	1894/006

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Smith Smith	William Jane	09	01	1894	Wilful damage	Wd	William Smith and Jane Smith were charged with deliberately breaking a window in the property of Thomas Brophy. Both pleaded guilty and expressed their regret at their actions. They were sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. The costs of the case were noted as being remitted, so were presumably not borne by Thomas Brophy or, possibly, the police.	1894/007
Justices		Various		11	01	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 January. The major portions of the minutes deal with the cases of Charles Langley against his father, Simeon Langley (see cases 1894/004 and 1894/005).	1894/008
Coffee Tavern				16	01	1894	Licence extension application	La	The Coffee Tavern Co applied for a one-hour extension to the alcohol licence in order to host a dinner on 18 January. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1894/009
Moor	William			16	01	1894	Licence transfer application	La	William Moor late of Peckham Road, London applied for and was granted a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Golden Heart on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1894/010
Knight	James	Lee	Edward	18	01	1894	Fraudulently soliciting alms	Fr	Edward Lee was charged with fraudulently obtaining alms by means of a fake subscription letter. Lee had presented to the Bishop via Mr Coulthard a letter soliciting alms and purporting to come from a Mr Teek (evidently a familiar name to members of the clergy and the police). The Bishop gave 5/-, but Revd. J Beresford was suspicious that the letter was a fake. Lee had gone to the police station to ask for a ticket for the night for the Wells Union. When police serjeant Knight questioned him and then had him searched, Lee then admitted that he had written the letter himself because he was out of work and desperately needed the money. Lee was sentenced to 6 weeks in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1894/011
Police		Briscoe	Edward	05	02	1894	Wilful damage	Wd	Edward Briscoe was charged with disorderly conduct in Wells workhouse by deliberately tearing his clothes. Briscoe pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. The costs of the case were recorded as 8/8d and were noted as paid.	1894/012

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		06	02	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that various individuals had failed to ensure that their child / children attended school sufficiently often as required by law. The individual parents involved and the names of the children affected are noted in the cases listed below.	1894/013
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	06	02	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Edward Allen, aged 9, son of Jane Allen of Boulton's Court, had only made 21 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 40 attendances. Jane Allen was fined 1/- and this sum was recorded as paid.	1894/013a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Greenland	Edward	06	02	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that John Greenland, son of Edward Greenland of Swan Yard, had only made 24 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 40 attendances. Edward Greenfield asserted that his son had been born on 21 August 1880 and was therefore no longer required to attend school. The hearing was adjourned pending the production of a birth certificate for the child. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 April Edward Greenland attended and produced the birth certificate which confirmed that his child was over the required age to attend school. Greenland was accordingly discharged. Note: the name of the father is shown in initial documentation as George Greenland but this is changed to Edward Greenland on the summons and in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting.	1894/013b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	06	02	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that William Vincent, aged 7, son of Joseph Vincent of Silver Street, had only made 29 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 56 attendances. William Vincent was shown as having passed standard 0. Joseph Vincent's wife appeared at the hearing and a fine of 1/- was ordered to be paid.	1894/013c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	06	02	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Anne E Cooke, principal teacher at the Central Infants' School, reported that Bertie Vincent, aged 5, son of Joseph Vincent of Silver Street, had made no attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 82 attendances. Joseph Vincent's wife appeared at the hearing where the case was dismissed.	1894/013d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Marsh	Silas	06	02	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Frederick Marsh, aged 10, son of Silas Marsh of Town Hall Buildings, had only made 27 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 39 attendances. Frederick Marsh was recorded as having passed standard III. Silas Marsh was fined 2/6d.	1894/013e
Justices		Various		08	02	1894	Minutes of a petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of a petty sessions sitting on 8 February. There were two alcohol licence transfer applications (see cases 1894/015 and 1894/016) and a number of cases related to parental failure to send children to school sufficiently often.	1894/014
Moor	William			08	02	1894	Licence transfer application	La	William Moor applied for a permanent transfer of the alcohol licence for The Golden Heart. The application was granted.	1894/015
Nation	Robert			08	02	1894	Licence transfer application	La	Robert Nation applied for a permanent transfer of the alcohol licence for The Forresters' Arms. The application was granted.	1894/016
Ball	Henry	Sheppard	William	10	02	1894	Assault	A	Henry Ball of No 20 St John Street complained that on 8 February William Sheppard of St Cuthbert Street, smith, had assaulted Frederick Ball. Henry Ball called on three witnesses to give evidence in support of his case, namely, Elizabeth Tutton, a servant at The Mermaid Inn, William Webb of St Cuthbert Street and William Brown of Market Street. At the hearing on 27 February the defendant's solicitor, Mr Chubb, appears to have quoted as a precedent the case of Nicholson v Booth and convinced the justices to adjourn the case sine die. Note: most of the documents refer to the defendant as Henry Sheppard, but only in the summons is the name changed to William Sheppard, but then the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 27 February appear to show H J Sheppard as the defendant.	1894/017

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Chard Lane	Henry James	Compton	William	10	02	1894	Fraud	Fr	Henry J Chard of Binegar, farmer, and James Lane of Cannards Grave, Shepton Mallet, farmer, complained that they had been defrauded by William Compton of Brinklow near Coventry, cattle dealer, on 5 December 1893. At Wells market on that date Chard had sold Compton 5 heifers for the sum of £56, while Lane had sold him 4 heifers and one fat cow for the sum of £65. Compton had given each of them a cheque for the requisite sum, but in both cases the cheque had not been honoured by the bank as there were not sufficient funds in Compton's account. It was said that if they had delayed presenting the cheques until 12 January, they would have been honoured. At a petty sessions sitting on 14 February Compton was bound over in the sum of £50 together with a surety of £100 provided by Thomas Collins of Rugby, butcher and farmer, to appear at a further session on 21 February when submissions from witnesses would be heard. At the session on 21 February it was determined that the case should be heard at the assizes in Wells on 6 June 1894. Compton was bound over in the sum of £50 together with a surety of £50 provided by Charles Edward Hickford of Rugby, licensed victualler, to ensure that Compton attended those proceedings. All other witnesses were bound over in varying amounts to ensure their attendance.	1894/018
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		20	02	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city council, complained that a number of individuals had failed to pay the general district rate set on 2 October 1893. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt involved are set out in the cases below.	1894/019
Jenkins	William Henry	Brooks	Walter	20	02	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Walter Brooks of High Street was recorded as owing £1.18s.4d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d in costs making a total of £2.0s.10d. Jenkins' summary list appears to indicate that payment was received.	1894/019a
Jenkins	William Henry	Moore	William	20	02	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Moore of Mill Lane was recorded as owing 5/5d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 7/11d. Moore was granted a fortnight within which to pay the debt.	1894/019b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Ashton	Simeon	20	02	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Simeon Ashton of Southover was recorded as owing 12/11d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 15/5d. Simeon Ashton's wife attended the hearing and pleaded that they could not afford to pay the debt since there were 3 of the family in bed with illness and her husband only earned 12/- per week. The case was adjourned for one month.	1894/019c
Jenkins	William Henry	Summers	Mrs	20	02	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Mrs Summers of St John Street, widow, was recorded as owing 9/2d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 11/8d. Mrs Summers paid 9/2d and was granted a further month within which to pay the costs of 2/6d.	1894/019d
Jenkins	William Henry	Donati	T W	20	02	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	T W Donati of Burcot Road was recorded as owing £1.1s.8d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d in costs making a total of £1.4s.2d. Jenkins' summary list appears to indicate that payment was received.	1894/019e
Jenkins	William Henry	Sharland	Mrs	20	02	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Mrs Sharland of South Street was recorded as owing 3/- for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 5/6d. Mrs Sharland pleaded poverty and was ordered to pay the outstanding debt at a rate of 2/- per month.	1894/019f
Jenkins	William Henry	Stanton	W	20	02	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	W Stanton of Cherry Orchard was recorded as owing 6/8d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 9/2d. Payment was recorded as being received on 26 February (i.e. on the day before the hearing of the case).	1894/019g
Bisgood	John	Knight	John Nathaniel	22	02	1894	Unlawful possession of explosives	Ex	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Nathaniel Knight of High Street with storing and keeping 365lbs of gunpowder on the premises of No 3 High Street. These premises were not licensed for the manufacture or storage of gunpowder and John Knight himself was not licensed to hold gunpowder either for his own purposes or for the purpose of conveyance as a carrier. An inspection of the premises by Colonel Arthur Ford and police serjeant James Knight showed that there were a number of serious security risks in the way that the material was stored. John Knight pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 40/- with costs of £3.10s.0d giving a total of £5.10s.0d to be paid. John Knight appears to have had 200lbs of gunpowder returned to him but 165lbs were forfeited.	1894/020

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		27	02	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of a petty sessions sitting on 27 February. The main case covered in the minutes was that involving the gunpowder being held by John Knight at No 3 High Street (see case 1894/020).	1894/021
Upham	William	Shiels	John	09	03	1894	Wilful damage	Wd	John Shiels (possibly known as 5-finger Jack) was charged with wilful damage at the lodging house of George Evans where he was said to have deliberately broken a window; the value of the damage was assessed as being 1/-. Shiels was said to be drunk and there was some considerable difficulty in getting him to the police station. Shiels pleaded guilty to the damage and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. The costs of the case were to be remitted to George Evans' wife.	1894/022
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		10	03	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	A series of summons was issued to parents for failing to ensure that their child / children attended school with the frequency required by law. The limited information on each case provided by the summons is shown in the succeeding entries. No information is available from the schools regarding the attendance of the pupils affected.	1894/023
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Greenland	Edward	10	03	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Greenland of The Swan Hotel Yard was summoned with respect to the attendance of his son, John Greenland.	1894/023a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Paul	William	10	03	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Paul of South Street was summoned with respect to the attendance of his son, Charles Paul. At the hearing on 12 April William Paul appeared and was discharged.	1894/023b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Pearce	Henry	10	03	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Pearce of South Street was summoned with respect to the attendance of his son, Henry Pearce the younger. At the hearing on 12 April Henry Pearce's wife appeared and, since his son had attended throughout the period since the summons, Henry Pearce the elder was discharged.	1894/023c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Scott	Mary Ann	10	03	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Ann Scott of Broad Street was summoned with respect to the attendance of her daughter, Alice Scott. At the hearing on 12 April Mary Ann Scott was discharged as her daughter had demonstrated better attendance since the summons was issued.	1894/023d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Blagdon	James	10	03	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Blagdon of South Street was summoned with respect to the attendance of his daughter, Annie Blagdon. At the hearing on 12 April James Blagdon's wife appeared and stated that the reason for her daughter's poor attendance was that her sister was ill. James Blagdon was discharged.	1894/023e

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	10	03	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Mill Lane was summoned with respect to the attendance of his daughter, Kate White. At the hearing on 12 April Joseph White's wife appeared and showed that Kate did not become 5 until 29 September 1894 and was therefore not obliged by law to attend school. Joseph White was discharged.	1894/023f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Dunton	James	10	03	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Dunton of St Andrew Street was summoned with respect to the attendance of his son, Percy Dunton. At the hearing on 12 April James Dunton's wife appeared and James Dunton was discharged.	1894/023g
Knight	Richard	Walker	John	22	03	1894	Wilful damage	Wd	Richard Knight, shopkeeper, had encountered problems with John Walker who was using bad language on his premises. He had ejected Walker who had immediately walked down the yard and broken 7 panes of glass with his fist. Knight assessed the damage at 8/-. Walker pleaded guilty to the offence and was ordered to pay 8/- in damages and a further 3/6d in costs. The sum of 11/6d was recorded as paid.	1894/024
Gibbons	Emily			22	03	1894	Licence transfer application	La	Emily Gibbons applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Forresters' Arms from Robert Nation to herself. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1894/025
Police		Woolley	Anne	27	03	1894	Drunkenness	D	Anne Woolley late of Wookey Hole was charged with being found drunk on the highway on 26 March. She was fined 5/- plus costs of 3/6d or to serve 7 days in prison. It appears that she was imprisoned since the document contains a note indicating that a commitment order had been issued.	1894/026
Police		Grey	George	31	03	1894	Drunkenness	D	George Grey was charged with being drunk in Southover on 30 March. PC Perrett had encountered Grey in Southover where he was being held upright by two men because he was so drunk as to be unable to stand. When they released him he fell down. PC Perrett then took him to the police station where he was found to have 8½/2d in cash on him. Grey was discharged on condition that he left the town by 12 noon.	1894/027

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Cornish	Richard	31	03	1894	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Richard Cornish of Coxley, haulier, with wilfully obstructing the highway in Broad Street on 13 March by parking 3 horses and 2 waggons there. The obstruction lasted at least 40 minutes with Cornish claiming that it was the result of him having to wait for his man to appear. Cornish pleaded guilty and was fined 6/- including costs.	1894/028
Bisgood	John	Baker	John	31	03	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Baker of St Thomas Street, baker, with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 16 March. Baker pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- plus costs of 7/- or to spend 14 days in prison. Baker was instructed to pay the fine by 4pm on the afternoon of the hearing.	1894/029
Bisgood	John	Sheppard	Emily	31	03	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Emily Sheppard of St Thomas Street with using profane and obscene language in St Thomas Street on 24 March. William Hill of Southover was summoned as a witness for the prosecution. Emily Sheppard pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs (although the costs themselves, including a witness, were noted as 10/6d).	1894/030
Bisgood	John	Sweet	Mary	31	03	1894	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mary Sweet of Tucker Street with being drunk in Market Street on 26 March where she was found lying against the wall so drunk that she was unable to stand. Mary Sweet was fined 10/- including costs or to spend 14 days in prison.	1894/031
Salmon	Henry L	Various		02	04	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon, one of the overseers of the poor rate for the In Parish of St Cuthbert, complained that various individuals had not paid the poor rate set on 26 October 1893. The individuals concerned and the amounts involved are set out in the succeeding entries.	1894/032
Salmon	Henry L	Lovelace	William Robert	02	04	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Lovelace of Broad Street was recorded as owing 9/6d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 12/-. Lovelace was ordered to pay the outstanding debt.	1894/032a
Salmon	Henry L	Vincent	Joseph	02	04	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Joseph Vincent of Silver Street was recorded as owing 3/6d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 6/-.	1894/032b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Salmon	Henry L	Wickham	Thomas	02	04	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Thomas Wickham of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 4/- for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 6/6d.	1894/032c
Salmon	Henry L	Donati	T W	02	04	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	T W Donati of Burcot Road was recorded as owing 13/- for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 15/6d.	1894/032d
Salmon	Henry L	Crabb	Mrs	02	04	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mrs Crabb of Broad Street was recorded as owing 11/- for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 13/6d. Mrs Crabb did not appear at the hearing on 12 April and was ordered to pay the outstanding debt.	1894/032e
Salmon	Henry L	Weaver	Mrs Elijah	02	04	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mrs Elijah Weaver of High Street was recorded as owing 8/6d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 11/-. Mrs Weaver lodged an appeal to be excused from payment of this sum on the grounds of poverty. She appeared at the hearing on 12 April and her appeal was upheld.	1894/032f
Salmon	Henry L	Ashton	Simon	02	04	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Simon Ashton of Southover was recorded as owing 7/9d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 10/3d. Simon Ashton lodged an appeal to be excused from payment of this sum on the grounds of poverty. Simon Ashton's wife appeared at the hearing on 12 April and his appeal was upheld.	1894/032g
Coles	Mr			05	04	1894	Licence extension application	La	Mr Coles applied for a one-hour extension of his alcohol licence to host a football club dinner. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: this is possibly George Frederick Coles.	1894/033
Justices				05	04	1894	Appointment of overseers of the poor	*	Messrs A A Clarke and F Asquith were appointed as overseers for the Liberty of St Andrew while John Marsh and Sidney Tom Richards were appointed as overseers for the In Parish of St Cuthbert.	1894/034
Police		Arnold	Alfred John	06	04	1894	Drunkenness	D	Alfred John Arnold of Chewton Mendip was charged with being drunk in Sadler Street on 5 April. He was found by Brown's Gate with his trousers disarranged and very drunk. Arnold pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay the costs of 4/6d. At the time of his arrest Arnold had £1.19s.0d in cash on his person.	1894/035

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Guardians of Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	09	04	1893	Refusal to work	Rw	The master of Wells Union complained that Thomas Henry Hucker, a pauper inmate, had refused to carry out the carpentry work to which he had been assigned, as he was supposedly a carpenter or cabinet maker by trade. It was noted that Hucker had discharged himself from the workhouse 3 times in the last two months, but after a few days away, he would return. Hucker was found guilty and sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour at Shepton Mallet. The costs of the case were recorded as 8/8d and this sum was recorded as received, although it is not clear who made the payment.	1894/036
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that various individuals had failed to ensure that their child / children attended school sufficiently often as required by law. The individual parents involved and the names of the children affected are noted in the cases listed below.	1894/037
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vile	William	09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that William Vile (the younger), aged 12, son of William Vile of No 34c Southover, had only made 29 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 52 attendances. William Vile the younger was shown as working towards standard III. William Vile the elder's wife attended the hearing where the case was dismissed. Note: Serel's initial list shows the father's name as Charles Vile and the summons gives the address as No 44c Southover; both of these were later modified on the summons.	1894/037a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vile	William	09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Lucy Vile, aged 9, daughter of William Vile of No 34c Southover, had only made 54 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 72 attendances. Lucy Vile was shown as having passed standard I. William Vile's wife attended the hearing where the case was dismissed. Note: Serel's initial list shows the father's name as Charles Vile and the summons gives the address as No 44c Southover; both of these were later modified on the summons.	1894/037b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vile	William	09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Annie E Cooke, principal teacher at the Central Infants' School, reported that Henry Vile, aged 5, son of William Vile of No 34c Southover, had only made 54 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 110 attendances. William Vile's wife attended the hearing where the case was dismissed since the child was not yet 5 (or had been under 5 for a proportion of the period assessed). Note: Serel's initial list shows the father's name as Charles Vile and the summons gives the address as No 44c Southover; both of these were later modified on the summons.	1894/037c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Walters	James	09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Beatrice Walters, aged 12, daughter of James Walters of No 94 Southover, had only made 23 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 72 attendances. Beatrice Walters was shown as having passed standard III. James Walters' wife attended the hearing where the case was dismissed.	1894/037d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Gill	Albert Isaac	09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Eva Gill, aged 10, daughter of Albert Isaac Gill of No 15 Priest Row, had only made 27 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 72 attendances. Eva Gill was shown as having passed standard III. Eva's mother, Mrs B Gill, wrote to the justices apologising for being unable to attend the hearing as she was unwell. She also explained that Eva's poor attendance was down to her being a sickly child and frequently unwell. Her mother added that the child was not involved in any kind of work and that she was continuing to educate her daughter at home. The justices fined Albert Gill 2/6d.	1894/037e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Seal	John James	09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Mabel Seal, aged 11, daughter of John James Seal of No 64 Southover, had only made 53 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 72 attendances. Mabel Seal was shown as having passed standard III. John James Seal's wife attended the hearing where her husband was discharged.	1894/037f

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Green	William	09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Mabel Embry Green, aged 9, daughter of William Green of Broad Street, had only made 43 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 72 attendances. Mabel Embry Green was shown as having passed standard I. William Green's wife attended the hearing where her husband was discharged.	1894/037g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Albert	09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Henry White, aged 9, son of Albert White of St Thomas Street, had only made 50 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 73 attendances. Henry White was recorded as working towards standard II. Albert White's wife appeared at the hearing where her husband was discharged.	1894/037h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Lamb	Archelans	09	04	1894	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Sarah A Bendall, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Lily Lamb, daughter of Archelans Lamb of No 12 Tor Street, had only made 28 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 39 attendances. Lily Lamb was recorded as working towards standard I. Archelans Lamb appeared at the hearing where he was discharged.	1894/037i
Justices		Various		12	04	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 April. In addition to cases already documented in earlier entries the minutes make reference to a number of other cases, namely: - two licence transfer applications (see cases 1894/039 and 1894/040) - a charge of assault and wilful damage against Arthur Watts (see case 1894/041) There were also a number of cases under the Education Act where summons against the parents were issued on 10 March.	1894/038
Gibbons	Emily			12	04	1894	Licence transfer application	La	Emily Gibbons applied for a transfer of the alcohol licence for The Forresters' Arms into her name. There were no objections and the application was granted on payment of the fee of 30/-.	1894/039
Griffin	F C			12	04	1894	Licence transfer application	La	F C Griffin applied for a transfer of the alcohol licence for The Fountain Inn into his name. There were no objections and the application was granted on payment of the fee of 30/-.	1894/040

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Watts	Arthur	12	04	1894	Assault Wilful damage	A Wd	Arthur Watts was charged with assaulting Henry Oxley in The Mermaid Inn on 16 March and causing wilful damage by breaking a glass and a chair. Watts did not appear at the hearing. Oxley testified that he had been drinking in the bar and that Watts had come in, had some beer and then walked across the room and knocked Oxley down onto the floor. He had then grabbed Oxley when he attempted to get up. The glass and chair were broken in the scuffle. A warrant was to be issued for Watts to be arrested. (See case 1894/038).	1894/041
Bisgood	John	Charles	William	26	04	1894	Owning an unlicensed dog	DI	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Charles of High Street, butcher, with being the owner of an unlicensed dog, a dark-coloured spaniel, which had been seen twice on Charles' premises by PC Upham. The offence was reported on 14 April. Charles pleaded not guilty on the basis that he had given the dog away some time before to the Duckett family in Milton, but William Frith of Polsham said that Charles had given a spaniel to him, but it kept running away and he was now told that it was with the Ducketts who refused to give it up. Despite the apparent contradictions in the evidence Charles was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs which were recorded as 8/-; Charles was recorded as having paid the fine.	1894/042
Bisgood	John	Charles	William	26	04	1894	Owning an unlicensed dog	DI	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Charles of High Street, butcher, with being the owner of an unlicensed dog, a white bull terrier bitch. This offence was reported on 16 April. Charles pleaded not guilty on the basis that he had given this dog to William Frith at Polsham. PC Clark had checked with William Frith who claimed the dog belonged to his son who had the licence, but later in the day Frith was able to produce the licence that had been issued that very morning in Glastonbury. The case was dismissed on payment of the costs of 4/6d. Note: it is assumed that the costs were paid by Frith, but this is not explicitly stated.	1894/043

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Mogford	Eunice	26	04	1894	Owning an unlicensed dog	DI	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Eunice Mogford of St Andrew Street with being the owner of an unlicensed dog. The offence was reported on 7 April. Eunice Mogford admitted owning the dog and confirmed that it was not licensed but claimed an exemption from the need to license it. The case against Eunice Mogford was dismissed as she produced an exemption certificate dated 16 April 1894.	1894/044
Bisgood	John	Francis	John	26	04	1894	Owning an unlicensed dog	DI	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Francis of Southover, coal haulier, with being the owner of an unlicensed dog. The offence was reported on 7 April. By the time that the case was heard on 17 May John Francis was reported to have taken out a licence on 24 April and the case against him was dismissed on his paying costs of 2/6d.	1894/045
Bisgood	John	Willmott	Thomas	27	04	1894	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Willmott of High Street with being drunk in Broad Street on 12 April. Willmott pleaded not guilty but was seen to be staggering and reeling along the street and fell through a window in South Street. Willmott denied breaking a window and PC Upham, who had given evidence against Willmott, admitted that he had not actually seen the defendant break the window. Willmott was fined 5/- plus costs of 9/-; these sums were recorded as paid.	1894/046
Justices		Various		17	05	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 17 May. Most of the minutes were concerned with the cases of unlicensed dogs (see 1894/042 to 1894/045). In addition, Mrs Bown applied for the justices to send her stepson, aged 13, to an industrial school. The justices requested that the boy's father should make the application and they would review it at the next meeting. Alfred Sheldon took the necessary steps to be made a justice of the peace.	1894/047

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Furze	John	Dunsford	William	24	05	1894	Wilful damage	Wd	Police serjeant Furze charged William Dunsford of Union Street with wilfully damaging a fence at Wells recreation ground called The Conygar. On 20 May he had seen Dunsford, together with 2 others, trying to jump over the fence between the recreation ground and the tennis court. Dunsford had made several attempts to jump the fence but then landed on the top rail and broke it; Dunsford and his companion then ran away. The justices dismissed the case.	1894/048
Bisgood	John	Stevens	Frederick	07	06	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Stevens of Southover, cab driver, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 24 May. Stevens pleaded guilty and was fined 7/6d including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1894/049
Bisgood	John	Simmons	Simon	07	06	1894	Indecent exposure	le	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Simon Simmons of St Thomas Street with indecent exposure on 2 June at Wells recreation ground. Simmons pleaded not guilty. Samuel Damerel, caretaker at the recreation ground, stated that Simmons had been with a number of young girls aged between 5 and 7. Simmons was found guilty and fined 20/- including costs.	1894/050
Justices		Various		14	06	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 June. All the cases heard are dealt with in earlier entries except the case against John Green for which there is no documentation except in these minutes; see case 1894/052 for details of the case against Green.	1894/051
Knight	James	Green	John	14	06	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Knight charged John Green with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 7 June. His drunken behaviour had attracted a large crowd and it was necessary to arrest him. Knight also noted that Green had torn up his coat, was about to smash a window and was using fearful language. There had also been a complaint about Green running after children. Green pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: there is no separate documentation for this case. The only reference to it is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 June (see aslo case 1894/051)	1894/052

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Stevens	Helen	Stevens	John Pitt	18	06	1894	Assault / threats of assault.	A	Helen Stevens of South Street complained that her husband, John Pitt Stevens, had assaulted her physically and had then issued violent threats which made her believe that she might suffer grievous bodily injury at his hands. She believed that her husband would have killed her had she not picked up the baby and held it in her arms, almost as a shield. At a hearing the following day John Pitt Stevens pleaded not guilty. Helen Stevens stated that when her husband came home the previous day he was in drink and they had an argument where harsh words were exchanged on both sides. Her husband had then struck her several times in the face with the flat of his hand and she had picked up the baby which had saved her from further violence, but her husband had said that if she did not look out, then he would do for her. The case against John Pitt Stevens was dismissed.	1894/053
Justices		Various		19	06	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 19 June. The minutes deal primarily with the case against John Pitt Stevens (see case 1894/053) but also give details of the charge against Mary Ann Norman (see case 1894/055).	1894/054
Police		Norman	Mary Ann	19	06	1894	Drunkenness	D	Mary Ann Norman was charged with being drunk in High Street on 18 June when she was found staggering about the street. Mary Anne Norman was discharged. Note: this case is only recorded in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 19 June (see case 1894/054).	1894/055
Gardner	James	Curtis	Abel	22	06	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	James Gardner complained that on 21 June Abel Curtis had come to his door asking for work. He was very insistent and would not leave even when told that there was no work available. He then became very abusive, called Gardner a clodhopping old fool and abused his father-in-law. The case against Abel Curtis was dismissed.	1894/056
Upham	William	Clarke	Elizabeth	23	06	1894	Drunkenness	D	PC Upham had found Elizabeth Clarke on the evening of 22 June in Priest Row with her face covered in blood. He took her to the police station where she was cautioned by police serjeant Knight because she was under the influence of drink. Knight applied for a ticket for the Wells Union for her. She was said to be very quiet. The justices discharged Elizabeth Clarke.	1894/057

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Freeman	Edwin			23	06	1894	Licence transfer application	La	Edwin Freeman applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The King's Arms from J S Cook into his name. The transfer was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1894/058
Russ	Alfred George	Wolfe	Ellen	02	07	1894	Transfer of dependant to another parish	Tr	Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, applied to transfer Ellen Wolfe, aged 25, and her daughter, also called Ellen Wolfe, from Wells Union to Stepney Union in London. Ellen Wolfe and her child were being housed in the pauper's ward in Wells Union but had no domicile in the parish and had not lived in the area for sufficient time (12 months) to qualify for support from the Common Fund. The last recognised domicile for Ellen Wolfe was recorded as Stepney in East London. Russ had established that Ellen Wolfe was the lawful wife of John Wolfe who was residing at No 104 Duckett Street, Stepney in East London and for a period of 4 years up to March 1893 he had lived at No 23 George Street, Commercial Road, Stepney East in the hamlet of Radcliffe. This confirmed that Ellen Wolfe should have Stepney as her recognised domicile. On 9 August the justices signed a formal order requesting the transfer of Ellen Wolfe and her daughter, Ellen, to Stepney.	1894/059
Hutchins	Elizabeth	Hutchins	Charles	02	07	1894	Assault / threats of assault.	A	Charles Hutchins of High Street, innkeeper of The Hearts of Oak, was charged with threatening to kill his wife, Elizabeth Hutchins on 27 June. This was not the first occasion on which he had issued such threats and Elizabeth Hutchins feared that she would suffer bodily injury at his hands. Ernest Trimm of High Street and his wife, Annie Trimm, were summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Charles Hutchins was required to put forward a surety of £10 to ensure that he would be of good conduct, particularly towards his wife, for at least the next 6 months.	1894/060

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Furze	John	Matthews	Morice	05	07	1894	Theft of bedding plants	T	John Furze of Burcot Road, police serjeant, complained that on 16 June Morice Matthews of St Thomas Street had stolen from his garden a number of pinks with a value of 3 pence. Sidney Ball of St Thomas Street was summoned as a witness for the prosecution. Matthews pleaded guilty and was ordered to come up for judgement when called upon. The costs of the case were remitted to Furze. Note: the case is assumed to be undertaken as a private prosecution, rather than a police prosecution.	1894/061
Bisgood	John	Baker	Oliver	05	07	1894	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Oliver Baker of Wookey Hole, carpenter, with being drunk in Queen Street on 23 June. Police serjeant Furze found Baker singing drunkenly in Queen Street; Baker then fell heavily against a window in High Street and at that point he was taken into custody where he initially refused to give his name and address. Baker pleaded not guilty to the charge but was fined 5/- including costs and this sum was recorded as paid.	1894/062
Bisgood	John	Bartlett	George	05	07	1894	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street, mason, with being drunk in the Market Place on 26 June. Bartlett pleaded guilty to the charge and was ordered to pay 2/6d including costs.	1894/063
Bisgood	John	Perry Ayres	James Alfred	06	07	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Perry of Coxley and Alfred Ayres of South Street, both described as labourers, with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 3 July. Police serjeant Furze had encountered the two men at around 11.30pm in St John Street where they were staggering along drunkenly, holding each other up and making use of lots of bad language. When they moved into South Street Ayres was taken into one of the houses by a woman but Perry fell into a drunken sleep close by. Furze had then roused him and got him to go away down Southover. Perry was fined 5/- including costs, while Ayres was fined 2/6d also including costs.	1894/064

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Sweet	Mary	09	07	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	Mary Sweet, charwoman, was charged on 9 July with being drunk in Southover on 7 July. Initially the case was due to be heard on 12 July but was adjourned and on 28 July the charge was amended to drunk and disorderly. Mary Sweet was found guilty and fined 5/- plus costs of 6/- or to spend 7 days in prison.	1894/065
Knight	James	Plaister	John	10	07	1894	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant James Knight charged John Plaister, aged 66, with being drunk in South Street / Southover on 9 July. PC Miller had called Knight to help him deal with Plaister who was so drunk that he was unable to stand. With some difficulty they were able to get him to the police station using a stretcher. Plaister was muddy, unable to communicate sensibly and unable to stand; he had 2/8d in cash. Plaister claimed that he had only drunk 2 pints of beer but was found guilty of drunkenness in a public place and ordered to pay 2/6d (the costs were actually shown as 3/6d) or to serve 7 days in prison; the fine was recorded as paid.	1894/066
Osman	Frederick William	Summers	Mary	11	07	1894	Refractory behaviour	Wd Pr Dp	Frederick William Osman, master of Wells Union workhouse, complained that Mary Summers had been guilty of refractory behaviour in the workhouse. She had first insisted that the workhouse look after her cat and after the laundress had made provision for the cat, Mary Summers then abused both the laundress and the cook using obscene language, refused to get dressed, and broke two panes of glass in the room. Mary Summers was cautioned and then discharged.	1894/067
Justices		Various		12	07	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 July. All of the cases heard are dealt with in earlier entries, except the licence transfer application from Hester Andrews (see also case 1894/069).	1894/068
Andrews	Hester			12	07	1894	Licence transfer application	La	Hester Andrews applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Mermaid Inn. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d plus a further 1/- for a copy of the transfer document. Note: the record of this application is shown only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 July (see case 1894/068)	1894/069

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Wheeler	Arthur Weston	Willmott	Thomas	16	07	1894	Theft of a coin	T	Arthur Weston Wheeler of St Cuthbert Street, pawnbroker's assistant, complained that in April 1894 Thomas Willmott of South Street had stolen from him a gold royal guinea valued at 25/-. Wheeler had acquired the coin in March 1894 but noticed that he no longer had it towards the end of April. He believed that he had lost it close to the Cathedral. Around the beginning of June he was informed that someone had such a coin and his enquiries led him to Thomas Willmott. Discussions were held between Wheeler and Willmott who initially requested money for its return but then refused to give the coin to Wheeler or even show it to him since he was unable to provide a detailed satisfactory description of the object. Wheeler called upon Augustus Walter of High Street, jeweller, to give evidence on his behalf. Willmott, defended by Mr E C Davies, claimed that he had found the coin and had refused to give it up to Wheeler, although he had eventually handed it over to police serjeant Knight. Willmott pleaded not guilty and when the evidence was heard by the justices the case was dismissed. The coin was given to Arthur Weston Wheeler.	1894/070

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Vincent Cook	Henry Henry John	Tincknell Dent Woodgate Woodgate York York York	Henry Albert George William Frederick James George	17	07	1894	Assault	A	<p>Henry Vincent and Henry John Cook, both of Portway, tailor and carpenter/builder respectively, separately complained that on 14 July each of them had been assaulted by a group of individuals made up of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Henry Tincknell and Albert Dent, both of Wookey, - George Woodgate and William Woodgate, both of Burcott, - Frederick York, James York and George York, all of Henton. <p>See also cases 1894/080 and 1894/081 for the countersuits for assault brought by George and James York against Cook and Vincent respectively. Detailed testimony from all the witnesses is set out in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 August (see case 1894/084). A brief summary is given below. Henry Cook was disturbed by noises outside his home in Portway late in the evening and went out to investigate. Several gates to neighbouring properties had been taken off their hinges (or 'unhung' to use the term in the testimony) and a number of individuals were seen heading in the direction of the cemetery. Cook and some of his neighbours, including Henry Vincent, followed them. This eventually led to some confrontations, fisticuffs and some minor injuries, particularly to Cook. The testimony of the various witnesses is contradictory in terms of who hit whom and who struck the first blow. However, the outcome was that George York, James York, George Woodgate and William Woodgate were all fined £1 including costs. The other defendants, Tincknell, Dent and Frederick York were all discharged as they had no part in the confrontations. Costs of £1.1s.0d incurred by Cook and Vincent were allowed. Additional witness testimony was obtained from Dr Bateman who treated Henry Cook afterwards, Frank Pope, and Elizabeth Frith, a lady living in Jubilee Terrace on Portway.</p>	1894/071

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Cribb jnr Marsh	George John	17	07	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Cribb the younger and John Marsh, both of Town Hall Buildings, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 15 July. PC Upham stated that he had seen both defendants in the street and heard their bad language. Cribb had wanted to fight with Marsh and, after being charged, he subsequently absconded. Marsh pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs and this sum was recorded as paid. Cribb was fined 10/- plus costs of 4/- or to serve 14 days in prison in Shepton Mallet. Note: this is the first case on which a major portion of the summons is typewritten.	1894/072
Police		Flaire	Adelaine	17	07	1894	Drunkenness	D	Adelaine Flaire was charged with being drunk in Chamberlain Street on 16 July. She pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1894/073
Police		Bentley	Elizabeth	21	07	1894	Drunkenness	D	Elizabeth Bentley was charged with being drunk in Southover on 20 July. She was fined 2/6d including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. The fine of 2/6d was recorded as being paid.	1894/074
Bisgood	John	Watts Collins Parsons Parsons	Frank James William Joseph	27	07	1894	Riding bicycles down High Street	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frank Watts, James Collins, William Parsons and Joseph Parsons, all of Coxley, with unlawfully riding bicycles down High Street on 21 July. Police serjeant Furze suggested that they were riding at 16-18mph down the street and shouting all the way. All the defendants were found guilty and ordered to pay 2/- each including costs.	1894/075
Crick	Nathan William	Oatley	Albert	27	07	1894	Weights and measures - unjust balance	Wm	Nathan Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, charged Albert Oatley of Croscombe, coal dealer, with having a spring balance for use in his trade where that balance was unjust and gave the incorrect weight. Crick claimed that the balance had an error of 2lbs on a weight of 56lbs. Oatley pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs, but was also required to forfeit the machine.	1894/076
Bisgood	John	Rose	Arthur	28	07	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Arthur Rose of Wookey Hole, paper maker, with using obscene language in High Street on 26 July. Rose was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1894/077

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Bisgood	John	Stevens	Susan	02	08	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Susan Stevens of Southover with using obscene language in Southover on 30 July. Stevens pleaded guilty to the offence but was discharged.	1894/078
Knight	James	Smith	H J	02	08	1894	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight charged H J Smith with being drunk in the Market Place on 1 August. Smith had been seen staggering drunkenly around the Market Place before appearing at the police station and asking for a ticket for an overnight stay at Wells Union. Knight refused him a ticket because he was so drunk and the Guardians of Wells Union were unhappy about accepting people in that state. Smith was fined 2/6d plus costs or to spend 7 days in prison. Smith appeared to have 1½d in cash at the time of his arrest and opted to go to gaol.	1894/079
York	George	Cook	Henry John	02	08	1894	Assault	A	George York of the Parish of Wookey near Wells alleged that he had been assaulted on 14 July by Henry John Cook of Portway. This was a countersuit to the action brought by Henry John Cook (see case 1894/071).	1894/080
York	James	Vincent	Henry	02	08	1894	Assault	A	James York of the Parish of Wookey near Wells alleged that he had been assaulted on 14 July by Henry Vincent of Portway. This was a countersuit to the action brought by Henry Vincent (see case 1894/071).	1894/081

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Hooper	Jane Euboa	Hooper	Joseph	04	08	1894	Assault	A	Jane Euboa Hooper of South Street complained that her husband, Joseph Hooper, haulier, had assaulted her on a number of occasions and had now thrown her out of the house. On 3 August Joseph Hooper had come home, apparently very upset about some money affairs, and told his wife to get out and take her things with her. He had refused to discuss the issue with her and locked her out. Jane Hooper had taken her things and gone to a neighbour's house. Although Joseph Hooper had not assaulted her on that day, he had inflicted a number of injuries on her in previous weeks, including multiple bruises, a damaged wrist and broken ribs. Her next door neighbour, Charlotte Allen, widow, testified that she had heard Joseph Hooper beating his wife on a number of occasions and had heard her cries of pain. Joseph Hooper was sentenced to one month in prison in Shepton Mallet. Note: it appears that the original judgement was going to be for Joseph Hooper to put forward sureties to guarantee his future behaviour, but those notes were struck through and a prison sentence recorded in their place.	1894/082
Police		Chapman	Edward	08	08	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	Edward Chapman was charged with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 7 August. He was thought to have been drinking heavily and was making a lot of noise. The police noted that Chapman had a wife and 5 children and they had had contact with him on several occasions because he had been imprisoned in Bristol and cautioned a number of times. Chapman was said to be lodging at Andow's and had been there about 2 months. Chapman pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs.	1894/083
Justices		Various		09	08	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 9 August. All cases heard are covered in earlier entries with the exception of two licence transfer applications which are noted in cases 1894/085 and 1894/086.	1894/084
Andrews	H			09	08	1894	Licence transfer application	La	H Andrews applied for the alcohol licence for The Mermaid Inn to be transferred to him. The transfer was granted. Note: this case is only documented in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 August (see case 1894/084).	1894/085

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Freeman	E			09	09	1894	Licence transfer application	La	E Freeman applied for the alcohol licence for The King's Arms in St John Street to be transferred into his name. The application was granted on the payment of the fee of 30/-. Note: this case is only documented in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 August (see case 1894/084).	1894/086
Trenchard	Henry	Chapman	Edward	17	08	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	Edward Chapman was charged with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 17 August. He pleaded not guilty. PC Trenchard advised him to go home quietly, but Chapman said that he had nowhere to go (see case 1894/083) and wished to give himself in charge. Trenchard noted that Chapman used extremely bad language both when he was detained and at the police station. At the time of his arrest Chapman had 1/1d in cash on his person. Chapman was found guilty and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1894/087
Police		Leslie	Arthur	20	08	1894	Drunkenness	D	Arthur Leslie was charged with being drunk in High Street on 18 August. He pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Leslie went to prison.	1894/088
Coles	Gilbert John	Allen	Thomas	20	08	1894	Assault	A	Gilbert John Coles of High Street, jobmaster, complained that he had been assaulted and beaten on 18 August by Thomas Allen of Tor Street, painter. Coles claimed that he had been taking a horse up High Street when he encountered Allen. There seems to have been some animosity between them as Allen had taken exception to being called a fathead. Coles claimed that Allen had struck him twice in the face before he had pushed Allen to the ground. Coles' testimony was supported by Fred Stevens and Alfred Griffin, but there was counter-testimony from Thomas Allen who complained that Coles had struck him first and had them kicked him when he was on the ground. Allen's version of events was supported by Fred Brooks, Walter Luke and John Higgins. The detailed testimony occupies many pages in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 September (see case 1894/111). The justices determined that the case should be dismissed with each side responsible for its own costs (Coles had been represented by Mr Norton) and Coles should also pay the sum of 3/- for the hearing.	1894/089

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Cox	William	Barr	Harriett	21	08	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	William Cox of No 2 Portway, railway porter, complained that Harriett Barr, wife of Henry Barr of Yarley, hawker, had used obscene language in Portway on 18 August. Harriett Barr had been sat in a trap in Portway and Cox had felt it necessary to come out of his house to complain to her about her language, but in response she used further bad language. Tamah Masters, wife of William Masters of St Cuthbert Street, labourer, was called upon to provide evidence for the prosecution. Harriett Barr was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs.	1894/090
Bisgood	John	Barr	William	23	08	1894	Furious driving	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Barr of Yarley, hawker, with furious driving of a carriage in Portway. John Onion of Portway, labourer, testified that he had seen Barr driving very quickly down St Cuthbert Street at around 12 mph and taking the bend into Portway at a pace that would make it difficult for anyone to get out of the way. Tamah Masters of St Cuthbert Street stated that she had been standing on the corner with Portway and was nearly run over, and Barr had had to pull up the horse soon after. Barr was found guilty and fined 10/- plus costs of 14/6d or to spend one month in prison. Note: it may be possible that William Barr is the same person mentioned as the husband of Harriett Barr in case 1894/090 since, apart from the forename, the characteristics appear to be the same.	1894/091
Collins	Samuel Henry	Lovelace	William	25	08	1894	Unlicensed dog	DI	Samuel Henry Collins of Portway, an officer of the Inland Revenue, charged William Lovelace with possessing an unlicensed dog on 7 July. Lovelace pleaded not guilty but the justices found against him and he was ordered to pay a fine of 10/- including costs, plus a further 7/6d for the dog licence. Lovelace was given a fortnight within which to pay.	1894/092
Police		Watkins	Amelia	27	08	1894	Profane and obscene language	Pr	Amelia Watkins was charged with using profane and obscene language in Broad Street on 25 August. She pleaded guilty to the offence. At the time of her arrest Amelia Watkins had 12s1/2d in cash on her person. Initially, she was sentenced to pay the costs of 3/6d or to spend 7 days in prison, but this was then changed to her being required to leave town within an hour.	1894/093

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Rice	Emily	Miller	Fred	29	08	1894	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	Emily Rice of The Royal Oak Inn complained that Fred Miller had refused to leave the premises when she requested him to do so. As a result he was in breach of the Licensing Act. Miller pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 2/6d including costs. He was ordered to make the payment immediately following the hearing on 13 September.	1894/094
Trenchard	Henry	Nolan	Michael	29	08	1894	Drunkenness	D	Michael Nolan was charged with being drunk in Southover on 28 August. PC Trenchard, who arrested Nolan stated that he found him lying down but when he got up, he fell about and was very unsteady. Nolan had 2/7 ¹ / ₂ d in cash when arrested. He was found guilty and fined 2/6d including costs or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1894/095
Loxton	Amelia	Vincent	Rose	01	09	1894	Assault	A	Amelia Loxton of No 31 South Street complained that she had been assaulted by Rose Vincent of Mill Lane on 31 August. Amelia Loxton claimed that Rose Vincent had encountered her in Mill Lane and deliberately insulted her before striking her. Walter Farley testified that he had seen Vincent strike Loxton. Rose Vincent pleaded guilty to the charge. The case against Vincent was dismissed but she was required to pay costs of 2/-; this sum was recorded as paid. Note: Walter Farley is also recorded as giving evidence against Ann Vincent of Mill Lane in an incident on 31 August (see case 1894/104). This raises the possibility that Rose Vincent and Ann Vincent are the same person.	1894/096

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Furze	John	Upshall	Frank	03	09	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Furze charged Frank Upshall with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 1 September. He also complained that Upshall had been very violent when arrested and taken to the cells in the police station. It had taken three officers to restrain him sufficiently to put handcuffs on him as Upshall had bitten and kicked, delivering a particularly violent blow to the head of PC Trenchard. Upshall complained that he had had a considerable sum of money taken from him, possibly by the police, but this seemed unlikely as it turned out that Upshall had recently been released from prison in Shepton Mallet. As a result of his drunkenness and violent disorderly behaviour Upshall was sentenced to go back to prison in Shepton Mallet for one month with hard labour.	1894/097
Gibbons	Emily	Marsh	John	03	09	1894	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	Emily Gibbons complained that John Marsh of Town Hall Buildings had refused to leave her licensed premises in Broad Street on 2 September when she had specifically asked him to go. This meant that he was in breach of the Licensing Act. He therefore pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1894/098
Bisgood	John	Willmott	Thomas	05	09	1894	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Willmott of Broad Street with being found drunk in St John Street on 24 August. Willmott pleaded guilty to the charge. He was fined 5/- for this offence and 7/- for a similar offence on 30 August (see case 1894/100); both sums were recorded as paid.	1894/099
Bisgood	John	Willmott	Thomas	05	09	1894	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Willmott of Broad Street with being found drunk in St John Street on 30 August. Willmott pleaded guilty to the charge. Note: this is almost an exact duplicate of case 1894/099, except that the date of the offence is different.	1894/100
Bisgood	John	Bartlett	George	05	09	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street, mason, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 28 August. Albert Collier of High Street, fishmonger, was called to give evidence for the prosecution. Bartlett pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs (although the costs of the case were shown as being 8/6d). Bartlett was recorded as paying the fine.	1894/101

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Bisgood	John	Ford Chamberlain	William Frank	05	09	1894	Obstructing the footpath	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Ford and Frank Chamberlain of Woodford in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert with obstructing the footpath in Broad Street on 2 September. It was stated that, together with 3 or 4 others, they had stood on the footpath and refused to move, thus causing other pedestrians to have to step into the roadway in order to get past. The defendants claimed that they were doing nothing wrong and therefore had no need to move on as requested by the police. The case against the two defendants was dismissed. Note: in the initial document the two defendants were named as Alfred Ford and Frank Ford, but these were modified on the summons to William Ford and Frank Chamberlain.	1894/102
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		05	09	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city council, complained that a number of individuals had failed to pay the general district rate set on 2 April 1894. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt involved are set out in the cases below.	1894/103
Jenkins	William Henry	Vincent	William John	05	09	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William John Vincent of Southover, mason, was recorded as owing 6/8d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 9/2d. A handwritten note was added indicating that the debt had been settled. Note: this individual appeared to be referred to as John Vincent in case 1894/105.	1894/103a
Jenkins	William Henry	Hawkins	Joseph	05	09	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Joseph Hawkins of South Street was recorded as owing 10/- for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 12/6d. A handwritten note was added indicating that the debt had been settled.	1894/103b
Jenkins	William Henry	Sharland	Mrs	05	09	1894	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Mrs Sharland of South Street was noted as owing 5/- for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 7/6d. As no payment had been made by 13 September, an order was issued requiring Mrs Sharland to pay off the debt in instalments of 2/- per month. Failure to do so would result in a distress warrant being issued.	1894/103c

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Bisgood	John	Vincent	Ann	06	09	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ann Vincent of Mill Lane with using obscene language in Mill Lane on 31 August. Walter Farley and Alfred Farley, both of Mill Lane, were called to give evidence for the prosecution. Ann Vincent pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/-. Vincent was recorded as paying the fine. Note: see also case 1894/096 and the testimony of Walter Farley.	1894/104
Bisgood	John	Loxton Vincent	William John	06	09	1894	Affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Loxton of South Street, labourer, and John Vincent of Southover, mason, with making an affray in Southover on 1 September. A large crowd had gathered and by the time that the police had arrived both men were grappling on the ground. PC Clarke pulled Loxton off Vincent and broke up the fight. General opinion was that Vincent had been looking for Loxton and had provoked the fight. Vincent apparently pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs, while the case against Loxton was dismissed. Note: this case may possibly have been connected with that between Amelia Loxton and Rose Vincent (see case 1894/096).	1894/105
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Various		07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	The overseers of the poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert complained that various individuals had failed to pay the poor rate that had been set on 17 May 1894. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt involved are set out in the succeeding entries.	1894/106
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Bartlett	George	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street was recorded as owing 9/11d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 12/5d. The outstanding debt was noted as being received.	1894/106a
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Hawkins	Joseph	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Joseph Hawkins of South Street was recorded as owing 7/- for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 9/6d. The outstanding debt was noted as being received.	1894/106b
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Stanton	William	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Stanton of Cherry Orchard was recorded as owing £1.5s.8d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.8s.2d. The sum of £1.7s.0d was noted as being received.	1894/106c
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Donati	T W	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	T W Donati of Newtown was recorded as owing 11/8d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 14/2d. The outstanding debt was noted as being received.	1894/106d

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Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Oxley	Henry	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry Oxley of Tucker Street was recorded as owing £1.5s.4d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.7.10d. The outstanding debt was noted as being paid.	1894/106e
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Hopkins	Robert	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Robert Hopkins of Southover was recorded as owing 5/3d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/9d. The outstanding debt was noted as being received.	1894/106f
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Hutchinson	Richard	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Richard Hutchinson of Southover was recorded as owing 5/3d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/9d. The outstanding debt was noted as being received.	1894/106g
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Vincent	John	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	John Vincent of Southover was recorded as owing 4/8d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/2d. The outstanding debt was noted as being received.	1894/106h
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Simmons	Samuel John Catcott	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Samuel John Catcott Simmons of Tor Street was recorded as owing 12/10d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 15/4d. The outstanding debt was noted as being received.	1894/106i
Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert		Crabb	Mrs V	07	09	1894	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mrs Crabb of Broad Street was recorded as owing 12/10d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 15/4d. On this occasion the justices excused her from payment.	1894/106j
Bisgood	John	Batey	George	10	09	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Batey of Tucker Street, labourer, with using obscene language in St John Street on 9 September. Batey pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1894/107
Bisgood	John	Allen	Charles	10	09	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Allen of Tor Street, painter, with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 8 September. Allen pleaded not guilty but was seen at The Fountain Inn with his coat off, in a highly excitable state, and wanting to fight. He was found guilty and fined 2/6d including costs (although the costs of the case were recorded as being 4/6d). The fine was recorded as paid.	1894/108
Knight	James	Baker	John	11	09	1894	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight charged John Baker with being drunk in the Market Place on 10 September. Knight claimed that he had repeatedly tried to get Baker to go home but he would not listen. Baker pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. The fine was recorded as paid.	1894/109

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Toomer	Harry Lovatt	Allen	Jane	13	09	1894	Eviction order	Ev	On 20 August 1894 Harry Lovatt Toomer, acting as agent for Mrs Elizabeth Snelgrove, issued a notice to Jane Allen terminating her tenancy of a cottage and garden in St Thomas Street. Jane Allen, together with her 4 children, was renting the property, owned by Mrs Snelgrove, on a weekly tenancy and paying a rent of 3/2d per week. The notice to quit required Jane Allen to give up her tenancy by 27 August. When she did not give up possession of the property, Toomer issued a further note to her on 28 August stating that on 13 September he would apply to the justices for a court order which would enable possession to be forcibly obtained in a further 7 days. The justices consented to the issue of the eviction order which was made on 13 September and would become effective in a further 21 days.	1894/110
Justices		Various		13	09	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 September. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant information from these minutes is incorporated into those entries as appropriate.	1894/111
Chapman	Alfred	Dix	Henry	14	09	1894	Assault	A	Alfred Chapman of Chamberlain Street complained that on 13 September he had been assaulted in Chamberlain Street by Henry Dix of Southover, plasterer.	1894/112

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John			16	09	1894	Annual report on alcohol licences	*	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, delivered the annual police report on alcohol licensing in Wells. He reported that there were 21 fully licensed houses, 13 beer houses, 1 off licence and 2 grocers' licences, making a total of 37. The population of the town was given as 4822. During the year 37 individuals had been brought before the justices on charges of drunkenness and in 33 of those cases the individual had been convicted, a figure which was 10 higher than in the previous year. Bisgood also noted that in general the licensed houses had been well conducted although there was one instance where the landlord was in the habit of quarrelling loudly with his wife and these arguments could be heard in the street. Bisgood noted that he had not objected to the renewal of that landlord's licence but if such behaviour continued, then he would raise an objection next year. Note: the numbers of alcohol licences was unchanged from the corresponding report in 1892 as was, more surprising, the size of the population, but it is assumed that in both cases the population number was based upon the 1891 census.	1894/113
Police		Longman	James	17	09	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	James Longman was charged with being drunk and disorderly in High Street and the Market Place on 16 September. His wife was noted as being away in Exeter. Longman had 1/8d in cash at the time of his arrest. He was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs, the fine to be paid by that evening.	1894/114

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Tite	Emma	Tite	Thomas	17	09	1894	Assault	A	Emma Tite of No 28 Vicars Close complained that on 15 September she had been assaulted by Thomas Tite of The Bull's Head who had struck her in the back and shaken her. Emma Tite testified that she had lived apart from her husband for some time because of his conduct; in fact, he had spent some 3 years away in London. She had taken up residence in Vicars Close in a house that was in her name and she took in lodgers. One of those lodgers was her brother, Fred Ashford, and when she had returned to her home with him on the evening of 15 September she had found her husband sitting in the kitchen reading a newspaper and her servant girl, Sarah White, in tears. Emma Tite had told her husband to leave but he refused, saying that it was his house. She had then, together with assistance from her brother and Sarah White, attempted to get Thomas Tite out of the house, but he had resisted violently and struck her several times in the back with his fists before pushing her against a wall and shaking her by the throat. They had eventually got Thomas Tite out of the door but Ashford and Tite were still struggling on the ground when one of the occupants of No 27 Vicars Close, a student called Andrew Robertson Hoare, returned home and succeeded in separating the combatants and getting Tite off the premises. Thomas Tite was found guilty of assault and ordered to pay the costs of the case of 11/-. In addition he was bound over for 6 months on a surety of £10 to keep the peace, particularly with respect to his wife.	1894/115
Winter	Robert	Barnard	William	19	09	1894	Assault	A	Robert Winter of St Thomas Street complained that on 19 September he had been assaulted by William Barnard of High Street, butcher. Winter claimed that at 9.30pm the previous evening when he was going to bed there was a banging on the door and Barnard was there saying that someone wanted to buy some coals. Winter refused to go down but promised to go to Barnard's in the morning. When he went to see Barnard, he asserted that Barnard had said that he (Winter) had insulted Barnard's wife at The New Inn. Barnard had then struck him in the eye with his fist and, when Winter had said that he would issue a summons for assault, Barnard had then threatened that Winter would not survive the night. The case against William Barnard was dismissed.	1894/116

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		20	09	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 20 September. Note: there is no separate documentation for the case against Mary Ann Norman for being drunk and disorderly (see case 1894/118); the only record for this case lie within the minutes for the petty sessions sitting of 20 September.	1894/117
Upham	William	Norman	Mary Ann	20	09	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Upham charged Mary Ann Norman with being drunk and disorderly in the Market Place on 19 September. Upham stated that he had found Norman to be very drunk and shouting loudly, and she had asked for a ticket for the night for Wells Union. Upham had refused to issue the ticket because she was drunk. Mary Ann Norman pleaded guilty to the charge but the case against her was dismissed. Note: there is no separate documentation for this case; all the papers are recorded in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 20 September (see case 1894/117).	1894/118
Langley	Simeon	Langley	Emma	22	09	1894	Assault	A	Simeon Langley of Miller's Gardens complained that on 21 September he had been assaulted by his wife, Emma Langley. The case was to be heard on 27 September but was adjourned to 10 October. Simeon Langley called upon Frederick Castle of The Lamb Inn in St Thomas Street and John White of St Thomas Street, butcher, to testify on his behalf, while Emma Langley called upon the wife of James Smith of St Thomas Street, innkeeper, to give evidence to support her case. At the hearing Emma Langley agreed to be bound over for 6 months on a surety of £5 to be provided by her to keep the peace, particularly towards her husband.	1894/119
Bisgood	John	Snooks	William	22	09	1894	Moving livestock without licence	Lm	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Snooks of St Thomas Street, labourer, with moving livestock, namely pigs, along High Street on 19 September without the requisite livestock movement licence. Snooks pleaded guilty to the offence and was ordered to pay the costs of 3/6d; this sum was recorded as paid.	1894/120

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Coles	George Frederick	22	09	1894	Profane language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Frederick Coles of High Street, innkeeper, with using profane language in High Street on 21 September. Ralph John Harvey of High Street was summoned to give evidence on behalf of the prosecution. Coles pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- plus costs of 8/6d; the payment of 13/6d was received.	1894/121
Bisgood	John	Cribb Crate	Henry Thomas	22	09	1894	Setting off fireworks in the street	Ex	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Cribb of Town Hall Buildings and Thomas Crate of St John Street, both aged 12, with illegally setting off fireworks in Tucker Street on 18 September. Cribb pleaded not guilty, but Crate admitted the charge. Ernest Chappell of St Cuthbert Street, Tamah Masters, also of St Cuthbert Street and Charlotte Perry of Tucker Street were all summoned to give evidence for the prosecution.</p> <p>Chappell stated that he had been with the others when they had bought the fireworks (see also case 1894/127) and he had seen Crate put a firework in the keyhole at Mrs Wheeler's and under the door at Mrs Perry's. At that point Cribb had been some distance away playing the concertina and standing with Hubert Barnard. Charlotte Perry, wife of James Perry, testified that she had seen fire under her front door and when she had opened the door the firework went off with a loud bang and lots of smoke, but the rag used to light it was still smouldering on the doorstep. Tamah Masters at No 41 St Cuthbert Street stated that she had heard some 5 or 6 boys in the street and heard them saying 'push it under the door' before a firework exploded with a bang. She had seen some boys running down Tucker Street but did not identify any individuals. PC Trenchard had been close by when the fireworks went off and had caught Ernest Chappell who had told him the names and addresses of the boys involved. Police serjeant Knight had the boys called into the police station the next day where they admitted what they had done and where they had purchased the fireworks. It appears that they were let off with a caution.</p>	1894/122

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Sheppard Cousins Crate	William Hubert Thomas	22	09	1894	Setting off fireworks in the street	Ex	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Sheppard of Morgan's Court, St Thomas Street, aged 11, Hubert Cousins of Union Street, aged 15, and Thomas Crate of St John Street, aged 12, with illegally setting off fireworks in the station yard of the Somerset & Dorset Railway on 21 September. Sheppard pleaded guilty and the other two not guilty. Thomas Bartlett Fear of Keward, station master, was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Fear testified that he had seen a group of boys putting fireworks into the keyhole of Russell's shop, a wooden cabin in the station yard. He had told the clerks to chase after them and they caught Cousins who was held by Fear until the police arrived. PC Trenchard had also been nearby and he stated that he had seen 3 boys standing close to Russell's shop and had witnessed Sheppard light a firework and put it in the keyhole. When the boys saw Trenchard they ran away, but he was able to catch Sheppard. Sheppard stated that Crate had put in the first firework and he had put in the rest, Cousins stood by but did not participate, Cribb was present and playing the accordion, while Crate indicated that Chappell's brother (presumably Joseph rather than Ernest, discussed in case 1894/124) had been helping them. Sheppard was fined 2/6d, as was Cribb, while Crate was fined 5/- and Cousins was discharged. The fines included costs and the boys were given one week within which to pay.	1894/123
Justices		Various		27	09	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 27 September. All cases heard are shown in earlier entries. The major portion of the minutes relates to the cases of the boys charged with setting off fireworks in the street (see cases 1894/122 and 1894/123).	1894/124
Bisgood	John	Taylor	Isaac	03	10	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Isaac Taylor of St Thomas Street with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 29 September. Taylor pleaded guilty to the charge. When arrested, Taylor was making a great noise with lots of bad language and wanted to fight one of the people who helped arrest him. He was fined 5/- including costs and this sum was noted as paid.	1894/125

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Foxwell	Edmund	03	10	1894	Maintenance order	Mo	Frank Carter Thatcher, Relieving Officer for Wells Union, reported that it had been necessary to transfer Ann Foxwell, wife of Edmund Foxwell of High Street, bootmaker, to the Somerset and Bath Lunatic Asylum. As a result there would be a charge to the common fund of the Wells Union of 9/4d per week for the care of Ann Foxwell. Edmund Foxwell had been asked to pay this sum, but refused, although he had contributed 15/- over the period during which his wife had been in the asylum. Foxwell had then offered a weekly payment of 2/6d but this had been declined by the Guardians of Wells Union. Thatcher now requested that Edmund Foxwell be summoned to determine the amount which he should contribute to his wife's care. Foxwell was duly summoned and, although he pleaded an inability to pay, the justices, taking into account his circumstances, determined that he should pay to Wells Union the sum of 3/- per week as a contribution to the costs of his wife's care. In addition, Foxwell was ordered to pay 9/- to cover the costs of the case.	1894/126
Bisgood	John	Perren	Joseph	03	10	1894	Illegal sale of explosives to a minor	Ex	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Joseph Perren of St Cuthbert Street, shopkeeper, with being in possession of fireworks, namely 6 squibs, and selling them to a child under the age of 13, namely Henry Cribb, on 18 September. Henry Cribb and Ann Cribb, both of Town Hall Buildings, and Ernest Chappell of St John Street were called upon to give evidence for the prosecution. Ernest Chappell testified that he had gone to Perren's shop with Cribb and Thomas Crate, but had stayed outside while they went in and came out with the fireworks. Henry Cribb confirmed that he had gone into the shop and bought one pennyworth of squibs from Mrs Perren. He had then gone and let them off on the bridge in Burcot Lane - and he had been cautioned for doing that (see case 1894/122). Ann Cribb testified that her son would be 13 in the coming January. The case against Joseph Perren was dismissed.	1894/127

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Lovegrove	John Way	03	10	1894	Illegal sale of explosives to a minor	Ex	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Way Lovegrove of High Street, shopkeeper, with being in possession of fireworks, namely 8 chinese crackers, and selling them to a child under the age of 13, namely William George Sheppard, on 21 September. William George Sheppard and Emily Sheppard, both of St Thomas Street, and Thomas Crate of St John Street were called upon to give evidence for the prosecution. William George Sheppard testified that he was 11 years old and had gone into Lovegrove's shop where he had spent 1/2d on chinese crackers from Mrs Lovegrove. For mischief he had then put the crackers into the keyhole of someone's door near the station and lit them. The case against Lovegrove was dismissed but he was required to pay the costs of 3/6d with 2/- being given to Mrs Sheppard; Lovegrove was recorded as paying the costs of the case.	1894/128
Bisgood	John	Oxley	Ann	03	10	1894	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ann Oxley of Tucker Street with being drunk in High Street on 28 September. PC Upham saw Ann Oxley near the junction with Priest Row where she was leaning against the churchyard wall. When he suggested that she made her way home, she only managed to go about 5 yards before falling over. With assistance, PC Upham got her home to Tucker Street, although she fell over at least once more. Ann Oxley did not appear at the hearing where she was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1894/129
Bennett	N J			04	10	1894	Licence extension application	La	N J Bennett applied for a 1-hour extension of his alcohol licence that evening in order to host the opening of the Lodge of the Ancient Order of Smiths. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1894/130

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Morgan jnr	John	06	10	1894	Failure to report infectious disease	Id	William Henry Jenkins, in his capacity as Inspector of Nuisances, complained that John Morgan the younger of St Cuthbert Street had failed to inform the Medical Officer of Health for the district that certain members of his family had contracted an infectious disease. The individuals who had contracted the disease were named as Edith Rose Morgan and Francis Frederick Morgan. Jenkins had received a report that two children were ill in Morgan's house and went to visit. Morgan stated that they did not know that the children had an infectious disease. Jenkins notified H W Livett, the Medical Officer of Health, and he went to see the children and identified them as having scarlet fever. One child had still been attending school in the initial stages of the illness, but after Livett's visit the children were isolated at home. John Morgan the younger was fined 2/6d plus costs of 7/- and was given until the end of the week to pay.	1894/131
Crandon	Charles	Wicks	Charles Frederick	10	10	1894	Theft of a suit	T	Charles Crandon of Wells complained that on 10 October Charles Frederick Wicks alias Toby had stolen from him a suit of clothes with a value estimated to be 32/-. On 19 October evidence was taken with respect to the accusation against Wicks of stealing a suit, and also of stealing 2 whistle tops with a value of 2/6d from Mary Ann Hammond. In addition to Charles Crandon, Amelia Jane Loxton, widow, and PC Duke from Shepton Mallet were called as witnesses. The case was to be transferred to the Assizes in Taunton in November. Wicks was granted bail on a surety of £50 of his own money and a further £50 from a guarantor. Charles Crandon and Mary Ann Hammond were required to put forward sureties of £10 each and the witnesses £5 each to ensure their attendance when the case came to trial.	1894/132
Justices		Various		10	10	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 October. All the cases heard are described in earlier entries.	1894/133
Police		Hardingham	Walter	13	10	1894	Begging in the street	V	Walter Hardingham was charged with begging in Broad Street. The case against him was dismissed provided that he undertook to leave the city forthwith.	1894/134

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Furze	John	Perry	James	15	10	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Furze charged James Perry with being drunk and disorderly in Tucker Street on 13 October. Furze testified that Perry was very drunk, violent and used bad language at around 11.30pm, causing considerable disturbance in the neighbourhood. Perry pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs to be paid by 4pm that afternoon.	1894/135
Furze	John	Sweet	Mary	15	10	1894	Drunkness	D	Police serjeant Furze charged Mary Sweet with being drunk in South Street on 14 October when he found her leaning helplessly against a wall. Mary Sweet pleaded guilty and was fined 20/- plus costs of 3/6d. It appears that she was either unable to pay (she had 1/6d in cash on her person when arrested) or unwilling to pay and went to prison.	1894/136
Bisgood	John	Lane	Harry	22	10	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Harry Lane of South Street, upholsterer, with using obscene language in South Street on 11 October. Robert Page of South Street was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Page had been going to bed at around 10pm when he heard lots of noise outside and saw Lane outside his own front door shouting and swearing at Mrs Loxton, another neighbour. Page had told Lane to go indoors and shut up but this meant that Lane turned his ire and insults on Page. When police serjeant Furze came onto the scene Lane was still outside and still using bad language. Lane pleaded not guilty but the justices found against him and he was fined 7/6d including costs, the fine to be paid by 4pm that day; the fine was recorded as paid.	1894/137
Bisgood	John	Price	Frank	22	10	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frank Price of Tor Street, upholsterer, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 6 October. John Batstone of St Thomas Street was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Price pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs, the fine to be paid by 4pm that day; the fine was recorded as paid.	1894/138

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
House	Mabel Nellie	Morris	David	22	10	1894	Assault	A	Mabel Nellie House of Southover alleged that she had been assaulted on 22 October by David Morris of Priory Road, salesman. Morris pleaded not guilty to the charge. Mabel House, aged 11, testified that she had been with her friend, Rose Coles, and they had gone into the entrance of Mrs Collier's Auction Rooms in Priory Road. Mabel was carrying her baby brother in her arms. Morris, a salesman in the business, had told them to go away, but they had initially stood their ground and refused to move. When he told them to move out of the way in order to let other customers into the shop, they had moved out onto the pavement. Morris had then picked up a hammer and threatened to throw it at them, but had then put it down and picked up a piece of wooden board which he had thrown at the girls, initially striking the baby boy, William, on the forehead and striking Mabel on the ear. Mabel's account was confirmed by the testimony of Rose Coles and also, to a large extent, by Percy Hassell, a sales colleague of Morris, although Hassell did note that initially there was a much larger group of girls involved and that they had been told on several occasions to go away. Police serjeant Knight saw the injured children and went to see Morris who was both indignant and insolent and refused to provide his name and address. Morris was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs to cover both this case and the associated case of assault on the baby (see case 1894/140).	1894/139
House	Bertha	Morris	David	22	10	1894	Assault	A	Bertha House of Southover alleged that on 22 October David Morris of Priory Road, salesman, had assaulted a male child named William Sydney John House, the son of Bertha House. This case was closely associated with the assault on Mabel Nellie House (see case 1894/139) and the details are recorded under that entry.	1894/140

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Parker	Arthur Charles	Jones	George	22	10	1894	Assault	A	Arthur Charles Parker of Union Street complained that he had been assaulted by George Jones of Southover, butcher, on 11 October. He requested that Jones be ordered to put forward sureties as to his future conduct. At the hearing on 24 October George Jones did not appear and a warrant for his arrest was therefore issued. A hearing took place on 25 October where Parker, aged 14, testified that he had been at Lewis' slaughterhouse when Jones had come up to him and cuffed him on the side of the head and smeared blood on his face. Jones expressed the view that he had given the lad a shaking up. Jones was ordered to pay the costs of 7/-.	1894/141
Justices		Various		24	10	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 24 October. The minutes briefly mention applications for one-hour extensions to alcohol licences made by Mrs George and Mr Walker for their respective establishments, each of which was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Neither of the establishments was named in the minutes.	1894/142
Hughes	Georgina	Allen jnr	James	25	10	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	Georgina Hughes, wife of Sampson Hughes, hawker, complained that on 24 October James Allen the younger of East Horrington had used obscene language in St Thomas Street. At the hearing on 28 October Allen pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- plus costs of 6/-; these sums were recorded as paid.	1894/143
Bisgood	John	Hayes	John	26	10	1894	Unauthorised livestock movement	Lm	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Hayes of Henton near Wookey with driving 8 fat swine along Princes Road on 22 October in contravention of local regulations governing livestock movement. Note: John Hurd was charged with exactly the same offence (see case 1894/145) and there is no reference in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 19 November of a case against John Hayes (see case 1894/159).	1894/144
Bisgood	John	Hurd	John	26	10	1894	Unauthorised livestock movement	Lm	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Hurd of Henton near Wookey with driving 8 fat swine along Princes Road on 22 October in contravention of local regulations governing livestock movement. John Hurd pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was noted as paid.	1894/145

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Weaver	Arthur Charles			01	11	1894	Licence transfer application	La	Arthur Charles Weaver submitted an application for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Mermaid Inn into his name until 13 December. The application was granted on payment of a fee of 3/6d.	1894/146
Osman	Frederick William	Summers	Mary	03	11	1894	Refractory behaviour Refusal to work	Bp Rw	Frederick William Osman, master of Wells Union workhouse, complained that Mary Summers had been guilty of refractory behaviour in the workhouse. Mary Summers had been admitted to the workhouse on Tuesday and by Thursday Osman had to put her on bread and water for disorderly conduct in the dining room. On Thursday evening further disorderly conduct meant that she was placed in solitary confinement for a period because she had been asked to pick 2lbs of oakum but only returned 1lb. A similar situation occurred on the following day where more oakum apparently disappeared and/or the allocated work was not attempted. Further sanctions then prompted Mary Summers to kick a door and then deliberately break two panes of glass. Summers was found guilty on both counts and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1894/147
Police		Clarke	Charles	05	11	1894	Vagrancy	V	Charles Clarke, aged 17, was charged with vagrancy, having been found sleeping in an outhouse opposite the Wells Union buildings. He was assessed as having no visible means of support. Clarke pleaded guilty to the charge but was discharged by the justices.	1894/148
Police		Francis	Albert Edward	06	11	1894	Vagrancy	V	On 5 November Albert Edward Francis was found sleeping in the hay in an outhouse opposite the Wells Union buildings; the property was owned by Mr Wickham. Francis was assessed as having no visible means of subsistence as he had only 2d in cash plus pipe and tobacco at the time of his arrest. Francis pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. The fine was recorded as being paid.	1894/149
Bisgood	John	Baker	John	13	11	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Baker of St Thomas Street, baker, with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 2 November. Baker pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1894/150

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Andow	George	13	11	1894	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Andow of St Thomas Street, baker, with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 3 November. John Higgins Baker of St Thomas Street was called as a witness for the prosecution. Andow had wanted to fight the arresting officer and took off his coat in order to do so, but he was restrained by two young men. Andow was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. Note: it is not clear if the summons to the witness is to John Higgins Baker or John Higgins, baker.	1894/151
Lane	Mary	Loxton	Amelia	13	11	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	Mary Lane, wife of Henry Lane of No 23 South Street, upholsterer, complained that Amelia Loxton of South Street, widow, had used obscene language in South Street on 6 November. James Andow of No 22 South Street, labourer, and Sarah Ann Loxton, wife of William Loxton of No 27 South Street, were summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Amelia Loxton pleaded not guilty to the charge. Mary Lane testified that she had been taking a dress to William Loxton's wife when she heard Amelia Loxton and her son complaining about her (i.e. Mary Lane's) son for being insolent and cheeky. This led to an argument and exchange of insults between Mary Lane and Amelia Loxton where the latter had called Mary Lane a bully and had sworn at her. James Andow confirmed that there had been a minor incident with Mrs Lane's son who had been told by Amelia Loxton to go home and had then responded cheekily to her. He testified that Amelia Loxton had called Mary Lane a bully and had sworn at her. Testimony from Sarah Ann Loxton stated that Amelia Loxton had sworn at Mary Lane, while Martha Page, wife of Robert Page of No 21 South Street and Emily Drew of No 31 South Street both said that they had heard no swearing, although the latter stated that Mary Lane's child had hit Martha Page's daughter. The case was dismissed with Mrs Loxton required to pay 3/- towards the costs. Note: it may be relevant that Henry (Harry) Lane was charged with using obscene language in October after he had had an argument with a neighbour called Mrs Loxton (see case 1894/137).	1894/152

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Vincent	John	13	11	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Vincent of Mill Lane, labourer, with using obscene language in Southover on 10 November. Towards midnight Vincent had been in Southover and had used very bad language in the presence of a number of females. He pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1894/153
Bennett	W J			13	11	1894	Licence extension application	La	W J Bennett applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence in order to host an Oddfellows' dinner. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1894/154
Crick	Nathan William	Oatley	John	15	11	1894	Weights and measures - unjust weight	Wm	Nathan Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, charged John Oatley of Croscombe, coal dealer, with selling on 9 November to the wife of Edmund Foote of No 34 St Thomas Street a weight of coal which was markedly less than the weight of 56lbs she had requested and for which she was being asked to pay. Oatley pleaded not guilty, but Crick stated that he had separately weighed 1/2cwt of coal and the basket in which it was delivered and established that the customer was receiving 13/4lb less than than the 56lb for which she was being charged. Oatley was found guilty and ordered to pay a fine of 5/- including costs; the fine was noted as paid.	1894/155
Crick	Nathan William	Hawkins	Edward	15	11	1894	Weights and measures - unjust weight	Wm	Nathan Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, charged Edward Hawkins of St Thomas Street with having in his possession on 9 November with the aim of using them for trade the following items all of which were of unjust weight: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - one 7lb weight - one 4lb weight - one 2lb weight - one 1lb weight - one 8oz weight. Crick noted that the 5 weights highlighted were too light by a total of 7 drachms. Hawkins pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was noted as paid.	1894/156

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Crick	Nathan William	Vincent	Henry	15	11	1894	Weights and measures - unjust weight	Wm	Nathan Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, charged Henry Vincent of High Street with having in his possession on 9 November with the aim of using them for trade the following items all of which were of unjust weight: - one 2lb weight - one 8oz weight - one 4oz weight. Vincent pleaded not guilty but Crick stated that he had checked the weights and found 3 of the weights in Vincent's shop to be too light. Vincent was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was noted as paid.	1894/157
Crick	Nathan William	Lewis	Lionel	15	11	1894	Weights and measures - unjust weight	Wm	Nathan Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, charged Lionel Lewis of High Street, pork butcher, with having in his possession on 9 November with the aim of using them for trade two 28lb weights which were of unjust weight. Crick testified that the 2 weights involved were both around 4oz too light. Lewis pleaded not guilty but was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was noted as paid, and the weights in question were returned to Lewis.	1894/158
Justices		Various		19	11	1894	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 19 November. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries.	1894/159
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Perry	James	07	12	1894	Desertion of family	Ds	Frank Carter Thatcher, Relieving Officer for Wells Union, reported that James Perry of Tucker Street had run away and deserted his wife, Charlotte, and their seven children, leaving them chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union. All of the children were younger than 16 and were named as James, Frederick, Elizabeth, Ethel, Albert, Rose and Henry. By 11 February Perry had been found or returned and was charged with vagrancy and desertion of his family. He was sentenced to 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1894/160
Bisgood	John	Tincknell	George	17	12	1894	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Tincknell of North Wootton, labourer, with using obscene language in Southover on 8 December. George Lambert of Southover was called to give evidence for the prosecution. Tincknell pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was noted as paid.	1894/161

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.

1895

Weaver	Arthur Charles			01	01	1895	Licence extension application	La	Arthur Charles Weaver requested a one-hour extension of his alcohol licence for The Mermaid Inn in order to host a private dinner. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1895/001
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Guppy	Emily	01	01	1895	Desertion of child	Ds	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Wells Union, complained that Emily Guppy of Love Lane, Burnham had run away and left her young son, John Guppy, to be taken into care in the Wells Union. John Guppy had been taken into care on 12 November 1888 and now, at the age of 14, he was still in care and chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union. At a hearing on 4 January Emily Guppy appeared and pleaded guilty to having deserted her son in 1888, although she had made a contribution of 8/- at the rate of 1/- per week to his maintenance in 1889. She was sentenced to spend two months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/002
Charles	William	Lovlace	William Robert	04	01	1895	Eviction notice	Ev	On 29 September 1894 William Charles, butcher, served William Robert Lovlace, bootmaker, with a notice to quit the property in Broad Street that Lovlace was renting from Charles. Lovlace was given 3 months notice to leave the property but did not surrender possession as requested. Charles then served notice that on 12 January he would seek an eviction order from the justices that would enable him to obtain possession of the property. At the hearing on 12 January Charles noted that he had granted Lovlace an annual rent of £14 whereas previously it had been £16. The rent had been payable in quarterly instalments and Lovlace had not always paid it on time and was now significantly in arrears. Lovlace argued about the terms and conditions of the rent but the justices found in favour of Charles and granted an order that would give Charles possession of the property on 11 February.	1895/003

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Collins	George	05	01	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Collins of Little Elm, butcher, with being drunk and disorderly on Wookey Road on 23 December 1894. Collins was heard to be shouting and swearing in the road and, when approached by the police, it was clear that he was staggering around, unable to stand and covered in mud from having fallen over. He was carried home by two men and a police officer. Collins was fined 10/- including costs, or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/004
Bisgood	John	Allen jnr	James	05	01	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Allen the younger of Haydon in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert with being drunk and disorderly in the Market Place on 29 December 1894 where he was found outside The Coffee Tavern. Allen pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs. He was given 14 days within which to pay.	1895/005
Tucker	Charles Alfred	Clarke Clarke	William Sarah	07	01	1895	Theft	T	Charles Alfred Tucker of Sadler Street, draper, complained that various items of his property had been stolen from his shop. He identified Sarah Clarke as the potential thief and he had seen her near The Crown Inn soon after he had noticed his property to be missing. Tucker reported his suspicions to the police and police serjeant Knight visited the Clarke's home in Rookham the following morning. He was allowed to search the premises by Sarah Clarke, but she advised him that one room was locked and she was unaware of the location of the key. Knight found that the room was not locked and discovered in it a piece of new calico, new blankets, a dress piece, some mantel bordering, window netting, a new pair of gloves and some wool. William Clarke denied all knowledge of the items while Sarah Clarke claimed that her aunt had brought them all from Bristol on Saturday afternoon. Husband and wife were remanded until the following morning on a bail of £5 each. At the hearing the next day Sarah Clarke was found guilty of the theft of property from Charles Tucker and also of other items of property from two other individuals. She was sentenced to two months in prison in Shepton Mallet; initially, the sentence was to include hard labour but these words were then struck out. William Clarke was discharged.	1895/006

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		08	01	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 January. All cases heard are recorded in earlier entries with relevant information from the minutes being incorporated as appropriate.	1895/007
Police		Sweet	Mary	19	01	1895	Vagrancy	V	Mary Sweet was found to be sleeping in an outhouse on Portway at 3.15am that morning. She was charged with vagrancy, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/008
Police		Clarke	Charles	20	01	1895	Theft of tobacco	T	Charles Clarke was charged with stealing 1/4lb of tobacco with a value of 1/- from James Adlam. In addition to Adlam, testimony was provided by Mary Merrick, Emily Gibbons and police serjeant John Furze. Clarke was sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour.	1895/009
Osman	Frederick William	Cook	John	26	01	1895	Refusal to work	Rw	Frederick William Osman, master of the Wells Union, reported that John Cook had been admitted to the Union as a casual pauper on 25 January. On the following day he refused to carry out the work to which he had been allocated. Cook was found guilty and sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/010
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Matthews	George	01	02	1895	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Wells Union, complained that on 15 January George Matthews had run away and deserted his wife, Eliza Matthews, and their 4 children who became chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union on 18 January. Eliza Matthews was aged 45 and the children were named Rose aged 14, Elizabeth aged 11, John aged 8 and Nellie aged 5. By 3 April all were still chargeable to the Common Fund and George Matthews was brought before the justices on 6 April to answer the charge against him. He was found guilty and sentenced to one calendar month in prison.	1895/011
Trenchard	Henry John	Johns	James	02	02	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Trenchard heard James Johns of Southover shouting and cursing and using particularly disgusting language late at night in Southover. He tried to persuade Johns to go home quietly, but Johns would not listen. With the help of William Hill, lighterman, Trenchard was able to get Johns to the police station and charge him. George Evans of Southover stated that Johns had come home drunk and he had tried to get him to go to bed but without success. Johns was fined 5/- including costs and was given until 3pm to pay.	1895/012

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Francis	William	07	02	1895	Not in control of horse and cart	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Francis of Coxley, labourer, with failing to be in control of a horse and cart for which he was responsible since he was too far away from the horse to control the movement of the vehicle as it went along Tor Street on 24 December 1894. The case against William Francis was dismissed, as was that against Charles Chedzoy (see case 1895/014).	1895/013
Bisgood	John	Chedzoy	Charles	07	02	1895	Not in control of horse and cart	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Chedzoy of Coxley, labourer, with failing to be in control of a horse and cart for which he was responsible since he was too far away from the horse to control the movement of the vehicle as it went along Tor Street on 24 December 1894. The case against Charles Chedzoy was dismissed as was that against William Francis (see case 1895/013).	1895/014
Bisgood	John	Viney	Arthur	07	02	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Arthur Viney of High Street, butcher, with using obscene language in the Market Place on 12 January. Joseph Clapton Davies of Portway was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. PC Trenchard testified that he had heard Viney using very bad language and this was corroborated by Joseph Clapton Davies who saw Viney in a trap and heard Trenchard remonstrating with him. Viney was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs (although the costs alone were shown as being 12/6d).	1895/015
Bisgood	John	Parfitt	William	07	02	1895	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Parfitt of Sadler Street, painter, with being drunk in a public place on 26 January. Parfitt pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d with costs of 5/-; the sum of 7/6d was recorded as paid.	1895/016

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Watkins	Arthur George	James	Arthur	07	02	1895	Cruelty to a horse	C	Arthur George Watkins of Taunton, an inspector for the RSPCA, complained that Arthur James of West Horrington, farmer, had been guilty of cruelty to a horse on 25 January by working it when it was clearly not in a fit condition. Walter Hawkins of West Horrington, labourer, was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Hawkins had been driving the horse and trap to deliver milk when he was stopped in High Street by PC Trenchard because the horse was very lame. Hawkins explained that the horse belonged to Arthur James and he was having to use it, even though he had told James that it was lame, because all of James' other horses were busy. Police serjeant Knight confirmed that the horse was seriously lame and should not be worked. Arthur Watkins visited James' farm to examine the horse and Thomas Witney, a veterinary surgeon from Shepton Mallet, also testified that the horse was unfit to be worked and that it had been lame for some time. William Ridewood of Horrington, blacksmith, claimed to know the horse well and disagreed with Witney's assessment. Extensive minutes of the testimony from all sources is shown in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 February (see case 1895/021). James was found guilty of cruelty and fined £1 including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1895/017
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		07	02	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1895/018
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Albert	07	02	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School reported that John White, aged 10, had made only 67 attendances in the period to 25 January when the school was open for 95 attendances. John White was recorded as working towards standard I. Albert White of St Thomas Street, John's father, did not appear at the hearing and was fined 2/6d.	1895/018a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Albert	07	02	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School reported that Harry White, aged 11, had made only 73 attendances in the period to 25 January when the school was open for 95 attendances. Harry White was recorded as having achieved standard III. No case was brought against Albert White of St Thomas Street, Harry's father, because Serel had not brought a complaint with respect to this child; the information about Harry White's attendance and educational performance had been provided by William Barnes as additional data.	1895/018b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bown	George	07	02	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Louise Charlotte Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that Elizabeth Bown, aged 12, had made no attendances in the period to 28 January when the school was open for 56 attendances. Elizabeth Bown was recorded as having achieved standard II. At the hearing of the case against George Bown of South Street, Elizabeth's father, on 12 February, Bown's wife attended and the hearing was adjourned pending the provision of a medical certificate supporting her daughter's absence from school. On 14 February George Bown provided a medical certificate which showed that his daughter had not attended school because she was suffering badly from eczema. The case was dismissed and Bown discharged.	1895/018c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	JOhn	Barr	Harriett	07	02	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Harriett Barr of Yarley in the parish of Wookey with being drunk and disorderly in St Cuthbert Street on 29 January. Emma Dowding of St Cuthbert Street was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Harriett Barr pleaded not guilty. PC Upham had been walking along St Cuthbert Street when he met Harriett Barr going in the opposite direction. In his view she was clearly drunk and as they passed she bounced off him and made what he described as being a most indecent remark. PC Upham then told her to go home quietly, but she had then turned around and made another comment to him before staggering onwards. Her daughter, Phoebe Barr, testified that her mother's comment had been to say that it was nice weather and she had only been out for a coffee. At this point in the hearing the case was adjourned for two days in order to obtain testimony from another witness. Emma Dowding stated that Harriett Barr had come into her shop in St Cuthbert Street shortly before her encounter with PC Upham. In her view Harriett Barr was much the worse for liquor and quite unpleasant. Barr was found guilty of being drunk and disorderly and fined 2/6d with costs of 10/6d; these sums were recorded as paid. See minutes of the petty sessions sittings of 12 and 14 February (cases 1895/021 and 1895/022) for further details of testimony.	1895/019

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Chiffers	Frederick	Lewis	Lionel	12	02	1895	Indecent exposure	le	<p>Frederick Chiffers of No 72 Southover, a gas works employee, complained that Lionel Lewis of High Street, butcher, had exposed himself to Chiffers' daughter, Florence, aged 10, in his shop in High Street on 31 January. Lewis pleaded not guilty to the charge. Florence had been sent to Lewis' shop for some back bones at around midday. When Lionel Lewis had come out from behind the counter to get the bones from the window he had exposed himself. He was still exposing himself when he went back around the counter having picked up the bones. Florence Chiffers was clearly shocked but Lewis had laughed so much that he could barely serve her. When Florence Chiffers went home she immediately told her father about the incident and he brought the case against Lewis.</p> <p>At this point in the hearing the case was adjourned for two days.</p> <p>When Frederick Chiffers testified he noted that the window in Lewis' shop was set very low and when Lewis was taking the bones out of the window his exposed person could have been seen by anyone outside. He further noted that Lewis had been to see him at his place of work saying that he would like to see Chiffers' daughter to apologise to her and offering £5 to Chiffers to settle the matter without going to court. Chiffers had refused both requests. Lewis claimed that his trousers had come undone and he was unaware that it had happened. Lewis was found guilty under the Vagrancy Act and fined £25 with costs of 15/-. See cases 1895/021 and 1895/022 for detailed testimony.</p>	1895/020
Justices		Various		12	02	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	<p>Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 February. The major portion of the minutes deals with the case against Arthur James (see case 1895/017). All the cases heard are dealt with in earlier entries, although the cases against Harriett Barr and Lionel Lewis were both adjourned and reconvened on 14 February (see case 1895/022 for further details of the testimony).</p>	1895/021

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		12	02	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 February. This sitting dealt primarily with the adjourned cases against Harriett Barr and Lionel Lewis (see cases 1895/019 and 1895/020). There is also a reference to a transfer of the alcohol licence for The Fountain Inn at the normal fee of 30/-. The surname of the new licensee is recorded as Catt but the forename is not legible.	1895/022
Langley	Emma	Langley	Simeon	28	02	1895	Desertion of wife	Ds	<p>Emma Langley, wife of Simeon Langley, complained that on 22 September 1894 Simeon Langley had deserted her and had neglected to provide maintenance payments for her since then, although he was physically able and financially capable of doing so. At the hearing on 5 March Emma Langley stated that she had been married to Simeon Langley for 30 years but the marriage had failed around 2 years ago because her husband had been drinking so heavily. He had left her last September and moved into a house in East Wells. She had not seen him for 5 months until the previous week when he had returned but she had called the police and had him ejected. Since then he had returned on two further occasions but she had refused to have him back. She asserted that all the furniture in the house was hers and had been bought with her money and the house was in the name of her son. The justices upheld Emma Langley's complaint and ordered that Simeon Langley should pay his wife 5/- per week with effect from 5 March. In addition, Simeon Langley was ordered to pay 7/6d for the costs of this case.</p> <p>Note: on 22 September 1894 Simeon Langley brought a charge of assault against Emma Langley who was bound over for 6 months to keep the peace (see case 1894/119).</p>	1895/023

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Allen	Jane	Snelgrove	Frank	28	02	1895	Bastardy	B	Jane Allen of St Thomas Street, single woman, stated that she had given birth to a baby girl out of wedlock on 6 June 1894 and claimed that Frank Snelgrove of Dulcote was the putative father. Jane Allen called as witnesses to give evidence in her favour Elizabeth Crandon of No 14 St Thomas Street, Mary Ann Perkins of No 21 St Thomas Street and Harry Lovett Toomer also of St Thomas Street. There is extensive testimony on this case in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 March (see case 1895/030), but, unfortunately, not all of it is legible. Jane Allen asserted that Frank Snelgrove came to collect rent for her home at No 1 Bolton's Court in St Thomas Street in the latter half of 1893 and they had sex every week for some time (possibly in lieu of rent) and it was at that point she became pregnant. She had apparently had several children by Thomas Sage in an adulterous relationship before that and remained unmarried, but Sage had died in the workhouse around September 1893. Jane Allen had attempted to obtain some money (£40?) from Frank Snelgrove to settle the case but had been unsuccessful and she had also tried to obtain benefits from the parish but had failed because she was not a married woman. The justices determined that the evidence provided by Jane Allen and the witnesses that she called was insufficient to justify placing a maintenance order on Frederick Snelgrove.	1895/024
Police		Hamilton Craddock	Robert James	04	03	1895	Vagrancy	V	Robert Hamilton and James Craddock were both charged with begging in the street. They appeared to have very little in the way of assets, 11/2d and some bread. Both men were discharged.	1895/025
Bisgood	John	Hayes	Walter	06	03	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Walter Hayes of Henton in the parish of Wookey, livestock dealer, with using obscene language in St Cuthbert Street on 1 March. Hayes pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 8/- plus costs.	1895/026
Bisgood	John	Baker Hatcher	James Alfred	06	03	1895	Affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Baker of South Street, umbrella maker, and Alfred Hatcher of South Street, labourer, with making an affray in Southover on 9 February. Both Baker and Hatcher pleaded guilty to the offence and admitted that they had been fighting in Southover. Both men were bound over to keep the peace for the next 3 months.	1895/027

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		07	03	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1895/028
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hawkins	John	07	03	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Lily Hawkins, aged 12, had made only 18 attendances in the period to 1 March when the school was open for 70 attendances. Lily Hawkins was recorded as having passed standard III. John Hawkins of Southover, Lily's father, was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/028a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Snooks	Mrs	07	03	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that George Snooks, aged 9, had made only 79 attendances in the period to 1 March when the school was open for 142 attendances. George Snooks was recorded as having passed standard III. Ann Snooks of St Thomas Street, widow, George's mother, attended the hearing which was adjourned until 11 April pending the production of a medical certificate. At the adjourned hearing Ann Snooks produced the required medical certificate and was discharged.	1895/028b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Raines	Maria	07	03	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Frederick Griffin, aged 11, had made only 74 attendances in the period to 1 March when the school was open for 142 attendances. Frederick Griffin was recorded as having passed standard III. Maria Raines of St Thomas Street, Frederick's guardian, did not appear at the hearing and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1895/028c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	07	03	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Katharine Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Edith Edwards, aged 6, had made only 37 attendances in the period to 1 March when the school was open for 147 attendances. Edith Edwards was classified as an infant in terms of standards achieved. The wife of George Edwards of St Thomas Street, Edith's father, appeared at the hearing and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1895/028d
Justices		Various		12	03	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 March. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries. The minutes are recorded in extremely abbreviated form.	1895/029

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		13	03	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 13 March. The minutes contain extensive testimony in the case of Jane Allen v Frank Snelgrove (see case 1895/024), but unfortunately a good deal of the text is difficult to interpret. In addition, there is also a reference to a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The King's Head to Harriett Coles on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1895/030
Russ	Alfred George	House	Emily	20	03	1895	Desertion of family	Ds	Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, noted that on 15 April 1890 Emily House had run away and deserted her children Elizabeth aged 6, Rose aged 3 and Harriett aged around 1 who had all become chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union. Emily House was now brought before the justices. She was found guilty of the offence and fined 20/- or to spend one calendar month in prison with hard labour. She was given one month within which to pay.	1895/031
Russ	Alfred George	Western	Annie Maria	03	04	1895	Fees for pauper lunatic	Lu	Annie Maria Western was described as a pauper lunatic being housed in the Somerset and Bath Asylum at Wells and as such the charges for her maintenance came out of the Common Fund of the Wells Union. Her care had become chargeable to the Common Fund in November 1890 and taking into account the monies that had been paid by the County Council and the contribution from her pauper father, John Western, the costs to date borne by the Common Fund came to £54.18s.6d. Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of the Wells Union, had established that there was a Post Office savings bank account in the name of Annie Maria Western that held a significant sum of money and he appealed for the sum of £54.18s.6d to be paid from this account to the Guardians of the Wells Union. The justices concurred with his request and issued an order for this sum plus the costs of the case to be paid from the account of Annie Maria Western.	1895/032
Salmon	Henry L	Various		05	04	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon, collector of the poor rate for the In Parish of St Cuthbert, identified those individuals who had failed to pay the poor rate set on 13 December 1894. The individuals concerned and the amounts owing are recorded in the succeeding entries.	1895/033

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Salmon	Henry L	Standard	Thomas	05	04	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Thomas Standard of Southover was recorded as owing 5/- for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/6d. The debt was noted as paid.	1895/033a
Salmon	Henry L	Woolford	Emma	05	04	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Emma Woolford of Silver Street was recorded as owing 3/8d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 6/2d. She had appealed to be excused from paying the poor rate and her appeal was upheld, so the debt was written off.	1895/033b
Salmon	Henry L	Oxley	Henry	05	04	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry Oxley of Tucker Street was recorded as owing 14/6d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 17/- . The debt was noted as paid.	1895/033c
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		05	04	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that a number of individuals had not paid the general district rate set on 1 October 1894. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt are recorded in the succeeding entries.	1895/034
Jenkins	William Henry	Woolford	Emma	05	04	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	Emma Woolford of Silver Street was recorded as owing 10/- for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 12/6d. Initially, she did not appear at the hearing on 11 April (see case 1895/039) and was ordered to pay the full amount of the debt by 9 May. However, on or around 10 May she then seems to have appeared before the justices and obtained a further 3 months' grace within which to pay.	1895/034a
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	05	04	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	Henry Oxley of Tucker Street was recorded as owing £1.9s.1d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.11s.7d. Henry Oxley's wife appeared at the hearing and was advised that her husband had been given until 25 April to pay the debt. The debt was recorded as paid.	1895/034b
Jenkins	William Henry	Stanton	William	05	04	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	William Stanton, late of Cherry Orchard but now of St Thomas Street, was recorded as owing 16/8d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs. The debt was recorded as paid.	1895/034c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Knight	Richard	05	04	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	Richard Knight of Ethel Street was recorded as owing £1.0s.0d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d in costs. The hearing of the case was adjourned for one month to 14 May (see case 1895/058) but at that hearing the case was adjourned for a further month to 11 June.. At the hearing on 11 June (see case 1895/077) with respect to Knight's outstanding debts for the poor rate and the general district rate he was noted as owing costs of 2/6d on each, but the notes then say 'remitted 5/-; paid'.	1895/034d
Jenkins	William Henry	Lovelace	William Robert	05	04	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	The schedule prepared by Jenkins showed William Lovelace as owing 15/10d for the general district rate on a property in Broad Street. A handwritten note at the base of the schedule stated that 'Lovelace occupied about 4 months, about 10/-' The initial summons requested a payment of 15/10d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 18/4d. There is an undated letter from Lovelace to the town clerk, Reginald L Foster, stating that he was so ill that he would not be able to attend court on 11 April and stating that his position was so bad that he could see no alternative but for his family to go to the workhouse. The hearing of the case was adjourned for one month (see case 1895/058). On 14 May (see case 1895/058) the adjourned hearing took place in the absence of Lovelace and the justices determined that he would be ordered to pay 10/8d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d in costs giving a total of 13/2d. Lovelace was given one month within which to clear the debt. There is a further undated letter from Lovelace written from an address near Oxford Street in London in which he stated that he had been in Loughton near Epping for his health and was unable to pay at present since, because of his ill-health, he had lost his job at Dobbie's. However, he had been taken on by someone who at one time had been his foreman at Dobbie's and would be able to pay the general district rate arrears once he had been paid.	1895/034e

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		05	04	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries. All the cases were due to be heard on 11 April but all were deferred until 14 May (see case 1895/058).	1895/035
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Ball	John	05	04	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that Sarah Ball, aged 11, had made only 24 attendances in the period to 29 March when the school was open for 71 attendances. Sarah Ball was recorded as having passed standard III. John Ball of Mill Pond Lane, Sarah's father, was represented at the hearing by his wife. The case was adjourned for one month to determine if attendance improved. At the hearing on 14 May John Ball's wife attended. Sarah Ball had not attended school since 29 March as she had had to stay at home to mind the baby. John Ball was fined 2/6d and given one week within which to pay.	1895/035a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Albert	05	04	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Harry White, aged 11, had made only 128 attendances in the period to 29 March when the school was open for 183 attendances. Harry White was recorded as working towards standard III. Albert White of Miller's Gardens, St Thomas Street, Harry's father, was represented at the hearing by his wife. The case was adjourned for one month to assess if the recent improvement in attendance was maintained. At the hearing on 14 May Albert White's wife appeared and on the basis that Harry White had attended at all times in the last week Albert White was discharged.	1895/035b

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Batey	George	05	04	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Eliza Jane Batey, aged 8, had made only 41 attendances in the period to 2 April when the school was open for 77 attendances. Eliza Jane Batey was recorded as having passed standard II. George Batey of Tucker Street, Eliza Jane's father, was represented at the hearing by his wife and the case was adjourned for one month pending the production of a certificate from the doctor regarding the child's health. At the hearing on 14 May George Batey's wife appeared and produced a medical certificate for her daughter. George Batey was excused. Note: the initial documentation prepared by Serel and the school attendance report signed by the teacher refer to Mary Jane Batey, but the name is changed in the minutes of the hearing.	1895/035c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hanney	Edward	05	04	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Katharine LLeiper Symington, principal teacher at the St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Kate Hanney, aged 12, had made only 72 attendances in the period to 22 March when the school was open for 77 attendances. Kate Hanney was recorded as having passed standard V. Edward Hanney of St Thomas Street, Kate's father, was represented at the hearing by his wife. The case was adjourned for one month to see if attendance improved. At the hearing on 14 May Edward Hanney's wife appeared and Hanney was excused.	1895/035d
Bisgood	John	Brown White Matthews Fry Price	Walter Albert Arthur William James	05	04	1895	Obstructing the thoroughfare by playing marbles	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Walter Brown, Albert White, Arthur Matthews, William Fry and James Price, all described as labourers, with causing an obstruction in St Thomas Street by playing marbles in the roadway on 22 March. All except Fry, who did not attend, pleaded guilty. PC Trenchard noted that all the defendants had been making use of the most disgusting language. Each defendant was fined 2/6d including costs; all fines were recorded as paid.	1895/036

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Moore	William	05	04	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Moore of St Thomas Street, labourer, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 3 April. PC Upham stated that he had heard William Moore using obscene language at the end of Tor Street. As he went to reprimand Moore, he attested that he heard Moore swearing again. He advised Moore to go home and to stop using such language and Moore then followed his advice. Arthur Matthews and Alfred Savage both testified that they had been with Moore or close to the incident and both stated that they had not heard Moore swearing, although both of them said that they had heard someone swearing but could not identify who it was. The case against Moore was dismissed.	1895/037
Bisgood	John	Francis	Ann	06	04	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ann Francis of Southover, wife of John Francis, with using obscene language in Southover on 4 April. Police serjeant Furze had been called to John Francis' home in Southover because of an altercation inside. When he left Ann Francis followed him into the street where there was a crowd of people and addressed him using obscene language. Furze took her back indoors and settled her down, but when he left the property she came back to the door and shouted after him using more bad language. Ann Francis was fined 7/6d including costs and given until the next day to pay.	1895/038
Justices		Various		11	04	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 11 April. All the cases heard are reported in earlier entries and relevant material from the minutes is included in those entries.	1895/039
Bisgood	John	Pearce	Tom	13	04	1895	Unlicensed market	Um	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Tom Pearce of Pylle, labourer, with showing a horse in Princes Road, a venue which was not in a market or market place. The alleged offence occurred on 6 April. See also case 1895/044.	1895/040
Bisgood	John	Vowles	Frederick	13	04	1895	Unlicensed market	Um	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Vowles of Highbridge, labourer, with showing a horse in Princes Road, a venue which was not in a market or market place. The alleged offence occurred on 6 April. See also case 1895/044	1895/041

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Pearce	Henry	13	04	1895	Unlicensed market	Um	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Pearce of Wells, labourer, with showing a horse in Princes Road, a venue which was not in a market or market place. The alleged offence occurred on 6 April. See also case 1895/044.	1895/042
Bisgood	John	Petheram	William	13	04	1895	Unlicensed market	Um	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Petheram of Lower Meare, labourer, with showing a horse in Princes Road, a venue which was not in a market or market place. The alleged offence occurred on 6 April. See also case 1895/044.	1895/043
Bisgood	John	Rolls	Sidney	13	04	1895	Unlicensed market	Um	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Sidney Rolls of Theale, labourer, with showing a horse in Princes Road, a venue which was not in a market or market place. The alleged offence occurred on 6 April. At a petty sessions hearing on 20 April there was a discussion about the issue of horses being made available for sale on Princes Road. This was causing problems with the adjacent cattle market in which it appears that horses could not be sold. However, the crowds around the horses made it difficult to get people and animals in and out of the cattle market. Of the several summons issued to those showing their horses (see cases 1895/040, 1895/041, 1895/042 and 1895/043) only the name of Sidney Rolls is mentioned at the hearing. Even then there is no mention of the specific case against Rolls and no indication of a verdict with respect to him or any of the other horse owners that were summoned.	1895/044
Police		Goode	George	22	04	1895	Begging in the street	V	George Goode was charged with begging in Chamberlain Street on 21 April. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/045
Weaver	Arthur Charles	Pitts	Thomas	23	04	1895	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	Arthur Charles Weaver, landlord of The Mermaid Inn, complained that Thomas Pitts of Southover, quarryman, had become disorderly and refused to leave licensed premises on 20 April when requested to do so by the landlord, thus placing him in contravention of the Licensing Act. See also case 1895/060 for possible outcome of this case.	1895/046
Police		Evans	John	24	04	1895	Begging in the street	V	John Evans was charged with begging in the Market Place on 23 April. He was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/047

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Ball	Edwin	01	05	1895	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edwin Ball of St Thomas Street, haulier, with obstructing the highway in Queen Street by parking a waggon there. PC Upham noted that the waggon and horse were parked at the High Street end of Queen Street for more than half an hour and he had found Ball at the end of Broad Street. Ball was fined 2/6d plus costs of 6/-; he was given until 18 May to pay.	1895/048
Salmon	Henry L	Weaver	Mrs M A	04	05	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	A summons was prepared on 4 May for issue to Mrs M A Weaver of Priest Row, widow, noting that she owed 3/10d for the poor rate set on 13 December 1894, plus 2/6d in costs as a result of her failure to pay up to this point. The dates of the hearing shown on the summons were then altered from 14 May to 11 June. The summons was not actually served until 29 May. Mrs Weaver responded to the summons in a letter of 10 June from an address in Combe Brook Terrace in Wookey Hole to say that she had taken no action to date and would be unable to attend the hearing because she had been ill but in any event she was unable to pay the poor rate since, as a widow, she was only being given 2/6d per week on which to feed herself and her two children. She trusted that the justices would take this into account in their hearing of the case. At the hearing on 11 June Mrs Weaver was excused from paying the poor rate.	
Salmon	Henry L	Knight	Richard	04	05	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Richard Knight of Ethel Street was recorded as owing 8/- for the poor rate set on 13 December 1894 plus a further 2/6d in costs. The hearing of the case was adjourned for one month to 11 June (but also see list of fines/payment prepared on 14 May, case 1895/062). At the hearing on 11 June (see case 1895/077) with respect to Knight's outstanding debts for the poor rate and the general district rate he was noted as owing costs of 2/6d on each, but the notes then say 'remitted 5/-; paid'.	

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Brophy	Thomas	04	05	1895	Offence against Licensing Act	L	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Brophy of The Railway Tavern in Southover, innkeeper, with opening his establishment for the sale of alcoholic beverages outside the legal licensing hours, namely at 7.30am on Sunday 28 April.</p> <p>At the hearing on 18 May PC Trenchard testified that he had been outside The Railway Tavern very early on Sunday morning and dressed in plain clothes. He had seen 3 men go up to the door and knock at some time after 6am. The door had been opened and Dan Shellard had come out and given a package to the men before being let back into the inn. When Shellard came out again at around 7.30am Trenchard had followed him to Ashton's lodging house at No 19 Southover. He had then stopped Shellard and searched the basket that he was carrying. On top was a lot of watercress but at the bottom was a jar containing at least 2 pints of liquor with some froth on the top.</p> <p>Trenchard surmised that the liquor had been recently drawn and therefore accused Brophy as the landlord of serving alcoholic liquor when the inn should have been closed. Shellard claimed that, as was his habit, he had bought the liquor the previous evening and had put a cork in tightly to stop it going flat. Brophy's wife supported Shellard's claim of having bought the beer on the previous evening and she and her husband maintained that the key to the bar had been upstairs with them all night and no-one could have got into the bar and drawn any liquor from the casks before they came down at around 7.30am. Shellard claimed that he usually had some beer with him when he went out delivering watercress and when he went out early in the morning to pick it; that was the reason for buying the beer in the evening but not drinking it until the next day.</p> <p>The justices had doubts about the testimony provided but decided to give the defendant the benefit of the doubt and discharged Brophy (see minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 18 May, case 1895/066, for extensive testimony).</p> <p>Note: the summons is annotated in pencil with the date of the summons changed to 7 October and the date and time of the offence changed to Sunday 6 October at 9am. It is not clear if there were two separate offences.</p>	1895/051

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Furze	John	Say	Charles	04	05	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Furze testified that he had found Charles Say leaning drunkenly against a wall in Priory Road on 13 April. When he was advised to go home quietly, Say became very noisy and abusive with a good deal of bad language. Say was taken to the police station and 3 men from Coxley took him home. At the hearing on 14 May the case was adjourned to 18 May when Say pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs.	1895/052
Bisgood	John	Brooks	Elizabeth	10	05	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Elizabeth Brooks of Southover with using obscene language in Broad Street on 1 May. PC Trenchard testified that he had heard Brooks using disgusting language in the street and stated that she was in liquor. Brooks pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d plus costs of 6/-; she was given one hour within which to pay.	1895/053
Police		Scholes	Hannah	10	05	1895	Drunkenness	D	Hannah Scholes was charged with being drunk in South Street on 9 May. There had apparently been a complaint from a member of the public. Hannah Scholes was discharged.	1895/054
Bisgood	John	Vowles	Frederick	11	05	1895	Furious riding	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Vowles of Clewer in the parish of Wedmore, groom, with furious and dangerous riding of a horse on 4 May during the May market along Princes Road and Priory Road. Frederick Chapman of Southover was called to provide evidence for the prosecution against all three individuals involved in similar cases (see also cases 1895/056 and 1895/057). Frederick Vowles was particularly vocal in his defence of the actions of David Carr, William Holborn and himself in parading their horse and ponies in parallel with the activity of the cattle market (see also case 1895/044). Frederick Chapman noted that he had been subpoenaed as a witness by the police but it turned out that he had really seen nothing wrong. In his view the riders had been in full control of their horses. Also, as a resident of Wells all his life, he considered it normal practice for horses to be paraded in this way at the May market day.	1895/055

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Carr	David S	11	05	1895	Furious riding	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged David S Carr of Draycott, with furious and dangerous riding of a horse on 4 May along Princes Road and Priory Road (see also cases 1895/055 and 1895/057). At the hearing on 18 May two police officers complained that David Carr had been galloping a pony up and down Princes Road while controlling a horse that was trotting alongside. In their opinion this was highly dangerous as there were people on the road attending the market and the farmers at the market were also trying to move cattle in and out. Carr and others responded that parading horses and ponies in this way was done in the same way in other towns in similar situations, that they were all experienced riders in full control of their horses, that most of the people on the roads were farmers, that no-one had complained and certainly no-one had been injured. Furthermore they had been parading in this way at Wells for a number of years. What's more they had moved from Princes Road to Priory Road when the market was breaking up and the farmers needed the space to move the cattle out.	1895/056
Bisgood	John	Holborn	William	11	05	1895	Furious riding	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Holborn of No 2 County Street, Totterdown, groom, with furious and dangerous riding of a horse on 4 May along Princes Road and Priory Road (see also cases 1895/055 and 1895/056). Despite the testimony offered by the the defendants and their supporters (see cases 1895/055 and 1895/056) the justices found in favour of the police complaints. They considered that it was high time such activities in public streets should be stopped as the number of horses involved seemed to be increasing every year and as a result the level of disruption and the associated risk had also grown. Vowles, Carr and Holborn were each fined £1 plus costs of 8/4d; all the sums were recorded as paid. See also case 1895/066 for extensive testimony covering all three associated cases.	1895/057

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		14	05	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 14 May. Most of the cases heard are recorded in previous entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated. The exceptions are the licence extension application for George Frederick Coles and the cases against Stevens and Webster; these are detailed in the following entries 1895/059, 1895/060 and 1895/061 respectively.	1895/058
Coles	George Frederick			14	05	1895	Licence extension application	La	George Frederick Coles applied for an extension of his alcohol licence for one hour in order to host a football club dinner. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: this application is documented only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 May (see case 1895/058).	1895/059
Weaver	Arthur Charles	Stevens	??	14	05	1895	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	The minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 May (see case 1895/058) describe a case in which Arthur Charles Weaver complained that Stevens (no forename, address or occupation are given in the minutes) had become noisy and disorderly with much use of abusive language in his establishment which led to other customers leaving. Weaver had called police serjeant Furze to remove Stevens who appeared to be having a disagreement with his wife and child since Stevens had refused to go when requested by the landlord. Stevens pleaded guilty to an offence against the Licensing Act and was fined 2/6d including costs. Note: there is no other supporting documentation for this case although the timing is similar to the case of Weaver v Pitts to which there is no reference in the minutes of this petty sessions sitting (see case 1895/046). Note: there is a subsequent case involving an eviction notice being served upon John Stevens alias Pitts (see case 1895/081) which implies a link between these two surnames (even though the forenames of the defendants differ). It is therefore possible that the two cases noted above are, in fact, the same case.	1895/060

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Webster	Henry	14	05	1895	Begging in the street	V	PC Trenchard found Henry Webster begging in Chamberlain Street on 13 May. Webster claimed to have walked from Bristol on the previous day. He claimed to have come from Leicester. Webster was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: there is no other supporting documentation for this case. All the information is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 May and a separate and undated letter from Webster stating that he has problems with his eyes, has been to two specialists in Birmingham and Leicester and they have recommended him to go to Moorfields Eye Hospital in London but he needs two shirts, two pairs of socks, a pair of slippers and his rail fare in order to get there.	1895/061
Justices		Various		14	05	1895	List of fines or payments	*	There is an undated document filed next to the minutes of 14 May showing amounts which may have been owing by William Lovegrove, Richard Knight and Mrs Weaver. The text in the note refers to the poor rate set in December 1894 and the figures shown for Richard Knight and Mrs Weaver seem likely to match their debt for the poor rate, but that for William Lovegrove appears to relate more closely to his general district rate debt.	1895/062
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Lovegrove	John Robert	15	05	1895	Maintenance order	Mo	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Wells Union, reported that Sidney Herbert Lovegrove, described as an impotent person who was unable to work and maintain himself, had become chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union. Elsewhere in the documentation Sidney Herbert Lovegrove is noted as being a pauper lunatic. Thatcher claimed that John Robert Lovegrove of Clevedon, fancy dealer, had sufficient ability to relieve and maintain Sidney Lovegrove who was his son.	1895/063
Bisgood	John	Watts	Frank	16	05	1895	Riding bicycle without lights	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frank Watts of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, carpenter, with riding a bicycle without lights along Priory Road between 9pm and 10pm on 10 May. Watts pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs. Note: lights were required on a bicycle from 1 hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.	1895/064

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Summers	Mary	16	05	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mary Summers of Broad Street with using obscene language on Cathedral Green on 11 May. The documentation includes what is said to be a transcript of the language that she used. Mary Summers pleaded guilty to the charge and sent a letter asking for understanding and to be allowed to remain with her children. At the hearing Mary Summers was fined 2/6d including costs. Note: the letter from Mary Summers was sent from an address in South Street but the rest of the documentation gives her address as being Broad Street.	1895/065
Justices		Various		18	05	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 18 May. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries. The minutes are very detailed with particularly large amounts of testimony for the cases against Carr, Vowles and Holborn (see cases 1895/055, 1895/056 and 1895/057), and the case against Thomas Brophy (see case 1895/051).	1895/066
Upham	William	Land	Mary	21	05	1895	Drunkenness	D	PC Upham found Mary Land in a drunken state with her clothing disarranged in Tucker Street on 20 May. The street was busy and there were lots of youngsters around. Upham managed to get her part of the way to the police station but then had to use hand trucks to get her the remaining distance. Mary Land was fined 2/6d to be paid that evening or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. She was committed to prison for 7 days.	1896/067

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Guardians of Wells Union		Dowden	F	22	05	1895	Desertion of family	Ds	F Dowden was stated to have run away leaving children to be charged to the Common Fund of the Wells Union from 17 April 1894. The notes of a petty sessions hearing record that on 4 April 'self and 3 child' (assumed to be F Dowden and offspring) went to join someone with a name beginning with 'H' (possibly Hawkins) and then left 2 children with H's husband. H then brought the children to Wells Union on 17 April and had heard nothing more from Dowden. Dowden was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet but promised to take the children (presumably on release). Note: it is assumed that F Dowden was female although it is not clear from the petty sessions notes. An address of No 13 Rosemary Street, St Pauls, Bristol is given in a side note but it is not evident to whom that relates.	1895/068
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Pedwell	Frank	22	05	1895	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer, complained that Frank Pedwell of Priest Row had run away and deserted his wife, Constance, and their four children, Gwendoline, Winifred, Alice and Dorothy. As a result, his wife and his daughters, all of whom were under the age of 16, became chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union with effect from 23 April and were now still dependent upon that source of support. A further document prepared by the Guardians of Wells Union on 16 October 1895 showed that Constance and her daughters were still chargeable to the Wells Union at that time. Frank Pedwell had clearly been arrested by that time and at a hearing on 19 October he was sentenced to serve 2 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet for the desertion of his wife and family. Note: the offence is described on the outer cover of the documentation as 'Vagrancy'. The notes of the hearing on 19 October again refer to the charge as 'Vagrancy'.	1895/069

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Brophy	Thomas	Smith	Frances	24	05	1895	Assault Profane language	A Pr	Thomas Brophy, landlord of The Railway Tavern, complained that he had been assaulted by Frances Smith. Smith had come into the inn with her husband and son, but the two men had left the premises. Frances Smith had deliberately struck Brophy in the face with a book and had proceeded to use extremely bad language both in the tavern and in the street. Alfred Hatcher provided confirmatory testimony. Police serjeant Furze came to arrest Smith who was continuing to use a lot of bad language in front of a crowd of people and even after being arrested Smith ran across the road in High Street and struck Brophy again in the face. Smith was fined 10/- for each of the two offences or to serve 14 days in prison. She was committed to prison.	1895/070
Police		Wooley Say	Ann Mary	04	06	1895	Theft of boots	T	Ann Wooley and Mary Say were charged with stealing 5 pairs of boots with a value of around £1, the property of Charles Edmund Foxwell. Ann Wooley pleaded guilty to the charge while Mary Say made a not guilty plea. Both were sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet instead of a fine of around 40/- each, including costs, to be paid within one month.	1895/071
Police		Diment	Saul	04	06	1895	Drunk in charge of a horse	D	Saul Diment of Glastonbury was charged with being drunk in charge of a horse proceeding down High Street, Broad Street and Priory Road. He pleaded guilty and was fined 10/-; the sum appears to have been paid.	1895/072
Rutter	Edward Scarburgh			06	06	1895	Application for admission	Aa	Edward S Rutter applied for admission to Kingswood Park; there is a further word which follows Kingswood Park but it is unclear. The application appears to have been granted and a fee of 2/- paid.	1895/073
Bisgood	John	Hayes	George	08	06	1895	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Hayes of Wookey, butcher, with obstructing the highway in Tucker Street by leaving a horse and waggon there on 29 May. Hayes had left his horse and waggon while he was in The Mermaid Inn for at least half an hour. The horse was partially on the pavement and people could only pass by with difficulty. Hayes pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1895/074

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Salisbury	Henry John	08	06	1895	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry John Salisbury of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, haulier, with obstructing the highway in Tucker Street by leaving a horse and cart there on 14 May. PC Upham saw the horse and cart parked close to The Mermaid Inn at 9.30pm and it was still there at 10pm. He found Salisbury in The Mermaid Inn drinking with someone called Weaver. Salisbury came out and moved the horse and cart to a different position in the street and went back in for another drink. George Small testified that he had been with Salisbury and had gone out at least twice to check that the horse was OK. Salisbury was found guilty of obstructing the highway and was fined 10/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1895/075
Bisgood	John	Marshall	Frederick	10	06	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Marshall of St Thomas Street, labourer, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 1 June. Marshall pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1895/076
Justices		Various		11	06	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 June. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries with the exception of the charge of vagrancy against George Young for begging (see case 1895/078).	1895/077
Police		Young	George	11	06	1895	Begging in the street	V	George Young was charged with vagrancy having been found begging on Cathedral Green on 10 June. At the time of his arrest Young had 1d in cash. Young pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: all the information for this case is recorded in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 June (see case 1895/077).	1895/078
Police		Shellard	Daniel	12	06	1895	Drunkenness	D	Daniel Shellard was arrested for drunkenness in Union Street on 11 June. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs, but was allowed a fortnight within which to pay.	1895/079

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Barrett	Henry	13	06	1895	Owning a dangerous dog	Dd	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Barrett of Broad Street, postman, with being the owner of a dangerous dog that was not being kept under proper control. A number of individuals were summoned to provide evidence on behalf of the prosecution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah King, wife of John Simper King of St John Street - Harry King of St John Street - Henry William Reakes and Violet Reakes of the Market Place - Harry Marshall of St Thomas Street. <p>At a hearing on 15 June Henry Marshall, a painter employed by Webb's, testified that he had seen a girl and boy running along the street and the dog, which had been lying on the doorstep, jumped up at the boy who had begun to cry. Marshall did not think that the dog had actually touched the boy. Henry Reakes and his daughter, Victoria, testified that around 10 months earlier she had been running along the street to school when a small white dog which had been lying on a doorstep had jumped up at her and bitten her leg which had bled and required treatment. She stated that she could identify the doorstep and would know the dog, but she had not been with her father when he went to see Barrett's wife and had therefore not specifically identified Barrett's dog as the one which had attacked her. Barrett was ordered to keep the dog, which was said to be aged about 7, under proper control. He was also required to pay the costs of 10/- and was recorded as doing so.</p> <p>Note: the boy and girl who were seen running along the street by Marshall were not named in the minutes but were presumably Harry King and his sister.</p>	1895/080

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Collins	Edwin Adolphus	Stevens (aka Pitts)	John	15	06	1895	Eviction notice	Ev	On 22 May Edwin Adolphus Collins, acting as an agent for Robert Isgar of Wells, issued to John Stevens alias Pitts a notice of termination of his tenancy on the house and premises at No 5 South Street. The notice requested that Stevens alias Pitts should deliver up possession of the property on 3 June. The tenancy was held on a week to week basis, so Collins claimed to have given adequate notice of termination. By 15 June Stevens alias Pitts had still not given up possession of the property, so Collins initiated proceedings to request that the justices issue a formal eviction notice to become effective from 25 June. At the hearing on 25 June the justices granted an order for possession of the property to Collins to become effective in 22 days.	1895/081
Chubb	Francis Osborne Oates	Crandon	Robert	22	06	1895	Wasting water	E	Francis Osborne Oates Chubb, secretary to the Wells Water Works Company, complained that Robert Crandon of St Thomas Street, butcher, had neglected to pay attention to a stopcock that needed repair and thus wasted water supplied by the company. Crandon claimed that he had notified the company of the problem, but George Lilly, engineer, stated that he had first heard of the problem when instructed to make an inspection by the company. He had found the problem, removed the defective item and replaced it with a new part. Crandon was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/082
Bisgood	John	Witcombe	Frederick	24	06	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Witcombe of St Thomas Street, labourer, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 16 June. John Batstone of St Thomas Street was called to give evidence for the prosecution. PC Upham had heard Witcombe quarrelling with an old tramp in St Thomas Street and heard him using obscene language and threatening to knock the old man's head off. When John Batstone tried to intervene and told Witcombe that he should be ashamed of himself, Witcombe then insulted him. Witcombe, who was said to have a mother and two brothers to support from his work for Bray (?), was fined 7/- including costs and allowed one week within which to pay.	1895/083

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Edwards	John Henry	27	06	1895	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight charged John Henry Edwards of Keward, engine driver, with being drunk in Priest Row on 26 June at about 10.30pm. Knight had found Edwards crawling along Priest Row on his hands and knees. Edwards would not give his name and address so Knight kept him at the police station until early the following morning, but had no complaints about Edwards' behaviour. Edwards' solicitor, Mr Davies, stated that Edwards, aged 30, was a GWR employee and ranked as a first class driver and had no record of drunkenness. Edwards was discharged on paying the costs of 3/-.	1895/084
Damerel	Samuel	Ayres	Arthur	27	06	1895	Drunkenness Uisng obscene language	D Pr	Samuel Damerel, caretaker of Wells recreation ground, complained that on 20 June Arthur Ayres of Southover, an employee of Richard Cock, had been drunk in the recreation ground and had used obscene language in a public place. Henry Cribb of Town Hall Buildings was called to provide evidence for the prosecution. Damerel stated that Ayres, aged 18, but with no parents, had used foul language and had called him nasty names. Ayres was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/085
Guardians of Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	29	06	1895	Absconding from Wells Union	Ab	Thomas Henry Hucker had presented himself at the Wells Union on 28 June in the evening, but on the following morning he had left his possessions behind and absconded. Blizzard, porter at the Wells Union, complained that Hucker had absconded again. Hucker pleaded guilty to absconding without leave and was sentenced to 3 calendar months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: this was not Hucker's first offence of this nature, as there were a number of almost identical occurrences in previous years.	1895/086

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Welsh, Son & Chubb		Oxley	Henry	01	07	1895	Eviction notice	Ev	On 1 July Welsh, Son & Chubb, acting as agents for John Davis Sherston, issued to Henry Oxley a notice of intent to obtain a possession order for the property at No 6 Tucker Street comprising a dwelling house, shop and premises currently in the occupation of Henry Oxley. The tenancy agreement under which Oxley occupied the property ran on a month by month basis with an annual rent of £20 payable at the rate of £1.6s.8d per month. On 25 May a notice had been issued to Henry Oxley terminating his tenancy and giving him one month's notice to hand over possession of the property on 25 June. Oxley had failed to comply with the provisions of the tenancy agreement and Welsh, Son & Chubb advised him that on 8 July they would request the justices to issue a possession order for the property. At the hearing on 9 July the justices granted the possession order to become effective in 22 days.	1895/087
Oxley	Henry	Godby Godby	Henry Elizabeth	02	07	1895	Assault	A	Henry Oxley of Tucker Street, butcher, complained that Henry Godby of Tucker Street, butcher, and his wife, Elizabeth, had assaulted him on 1 July. He also brought a case of wilful damage against Henry Godby (see case 1895/089) arising from the same incident. Godby and his wife, Elizabeth, brought separate countersuits, each alleging that they had been assaulted by Henry Oxley (see cases 1895/090 and 1895/091). The hearing of all four cases began on 9 July but was adjourned until the following day (see minutes of petty sessions sitting of 10 July (see case 1895/095) for more information). Note: the documents prepared for this case and that for wilful damage (1895/089) refer to Henry Godfrey, but the countersuits and the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 July consistently refer to Godby.	1895/088
Oxley	Henry	Godby	Henry	02	07	1895	Wilful damage	Wd	Henry Oxley of Tucker Street, butcher, complained that Henry Godby of Tucker Street, butcher, had deliberately damaged a door in Oxley's property on 1 July.	1895/089
Godby	Henry	Oxley	Henry	04	07	1895	Assault	A	Henry Godby of Portway complained that he had been assaulted by Henry Oxley of Tucker Street, poulterer, on 1 July.	1895/090
Godby	Elizabeth	Oxley	Henry	04	07	1895	Assault	A	Elizabeth Godby, wife of Henry Godby of Portway, complained that she had been assaulted by Henry Oxley of Tucker Street, poulterer, on 1 July.	1895/091

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Andrews	Frederick Edward	Nash	Frederick	06	07	1895	Assault	A	Frederick Edward Andrews of No 10 Broad Street, watch maker, complained that he had been assaulted by Frederick Nash of No 65a High Street, pensioner, on 6 July. To the back of Andrews' property lay a courtyard and he and his wife, Rose Hannah Andrews, made frequent use of it for beating carpets, cleaning machinery and drying clothes. He and his wife had taken out a rug to shake and were in the process of doing that when Frederick Nash came out of his property, which also backed onto the courtyard, and told them to stop, Nash had allegedly tried to grab the rug from them and then pushed Frederick Andrews in order to take the rug. Andrews had resisted and this led to an exchange of insults between them, leading Andrews to say that he would summon Nash. Nash's wife attempted to calm the position by taking her husband away. Nash was found guilty of assault and ordered to pay a fine of 2/6d including costs. He was allowed a week within which to pay.	1895/092
Police		Young	Ann	08	07	1895	Drunkenness	D	Ann Young was charged with being drunk in Union Street on 6 July. She was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/093
Justices		Various		09	07	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 9 July. All cases heard are recorded in earlier entries with relevant data from the minutes incorporated where appropriate. The cases involving Henry Oxley against Henry Godby and vice versa began on 9 July but the major part of the hearing took place on 10 July (see case 1895/095).	1895/094

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Oxley Godby	Henry Henry	10	07	1895	Assault Wilful damage	A Wd	A special petty sessions sitting was convened to hear the four cases involving Henry Oxley against Henry Godby and his wife, Elizabeth, and vice versa (see cases 1895/088, 1895/089, 1895/090 and 1895/091). Godby and his wife had been renting rooms in Henry Oxley's tenanted holding in Tucker Street. Oxley had been given notice of the termination of his tenancy by his landlord (see case 1895/087) and he had therefore told Godby that he would need to move elsewhere. However, he required two weeks rent from Godby which the latter disputed. Oxley then refused to allow Godby to continue moving out his possessions to his new lodgings in Portway until he had paid the outstanding rent. Oxley had called upon Richard Knight as his agent to present the bill to Godby and to get it paid. Godby and his wife tried to gain access to the rooms that they had been renting in order to get their possessions but this resulted in a fracas with Oxley leading each to accuse the other of assault. In the course of the dispute Godby, considered by certain witnesses to be drunk and emotional, was seen by several people, including police serjeant Knight, to be repeatedly kicking the door to Oxley's property causing material damage and breaking two panes of glass. In addition to the principals, witness testimony was obtained from Richard Knight, police serjeant James Knight, George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street and George Parkhouse. In the end the justices dismissed all the cases of assault, ruling that each side should pay their own costs (8/6d for Oxley and 18/6d for Godby), but upheld the case for wilful damage against Godby fining him 6/6d plus costs.	1895/095

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Sheldon	Agnes	Willmott	James	12	07	1895	Bastardy	B	<p>Agnes Sheldon of No 65 High Street, single woman, gave birth to a child out of wedlock on 26 April 1895. She identified the putative father as James Willmott, formerly of High Street but by then of Priest Row, asylum attendant at the Somerset and Bath Lunatic Asylum, and pursued a case against him to try and obtain maintenance payments for the child. Agnes Sheldon summoned the following individuals to give evidence on her behalf:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Martha Cock said to be of No 65a High Street, but the summons was actually served in Gillingham, Dorset - Mary Wickham, wife of John Wickham of St Thomas Street - Annie Trimm, wife of Ernest Charles Trimm of No 65c High Street. <p>The hearing was initially scheduled for 13 August but was adjourned to 20 August. Agnes Sheldon, aged 36, testified that Willmott had been a next-door neighbour for some time. She had known him quite well when his wife was alive because she used to visit her quite often. After his wife died in January 1893 she had effectively become a housekeeper, looking after his children while he was out at work, before she went to work in The City Arms in the evening. She and Willmott had eventually become intimate and this continued until around August 1894 when she was</p>	1895/096

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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									already pregnant. Willmott had supposedly made several promises to marry her both before and after he learnt of her pregnancy. She stated that while she was acting as housekeeper for Willmott she had not been intimate with any other man. She admitted that she had had a child in an earlier relationship and that boy was now 15. She had acted as housekeeper for other men, for example, Lewis and Bartlett, and she had had other relationships before Willmott - but none since. Evidence from Agnes Sheldon's witnesses indicated that they were together a lot but they did not appear to show them living as man and wife. The justices determined that there was insufficient corroborating evidence to show that Willmott was the father and dismissed the case, but, recognising Agnes Sheldon's poverty, they remitted the costs of the case that she had brought (see minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 20 August, case 1895/121) for very detailed testimony.	
Bisgood	John	Fry	William	15	07	1895	Keeping a dog without a licence	DI	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Fry of St Thomas Street with keeping a dog without a valid licence for the animal; the offence was identified on 5 July when PC Upham saw two terriers at the house of Fry's mother. Fry pleaded not guilty saying that one of the dogs belonged to his brother but his brother denied this statement and told the police that he had advised his brother to get rid of one of the dogs. William Fry then admitted his guilt and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1895/097
Bisgood	John	Radnedge	George	15	07	1895	Riding bicycle without lights	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Radnedge of Silver Street with riding a bicycle without lights in Southover between 9pm and 10pm on 5 July. Radnedge pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 1/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. Note: lights were required on a bicycle in the period between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise.	1895/098

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Bartlett	George	15	07	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street, mason, with using obscene language in St Cuthbert Street on 6 July. Bartlett pleaded not guilty, but PC Upham testified that he had been on duty at the corner of The Mermaid Inn and had heard Bartlett standing by his front door talking to a group of men and using bad language. PC Upham provided a document containing a transcript of the words supposedly uttered by Bartlett. Bartlett was found guilty and fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/099
Allen	Harriet	Vincent	Henry	15	07	1895	Assault	A	Harriet Allen, wife of William Allen of No 24 St Cuthbert Street, complained that on 9 July Henry Vincent of High Street, fishmonger, had assaulted and beaten her son, Albert Walter Allen. The boy, aged 11, testified that he had been walking towards Vincent's shop in St Cuthbert Street when Henry Vincent's son, Albert, pushed him. Henry Vincent appeared, caught hold of Allen and shook him, saying that he had stolen a bloater. The incident was seen by Caroline D (surname not legible), a 16-year old girl living at No 6 St Cuthbert Street, and Mary Collins, wife of John Collins of St Cuthbert Street. Both saw Henry Vincent catch hold of Allen and shake him. PC Trenchard, who appeared as a witness for the defence, was also nearby and saw Allen run past him followed by Vincent's son, Albert, who was shouting that Allen had stolen fish. Trenchard saw Henry Vincent catch Allen and hit him twice with his belt. The case against Henry Vincent for assault was dismissed.	1895/100

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Morgan	Mary	Francis	Ernest	18	07	1895	Bastardy	B	<p>Mary Morgan of Mill Lane, single woman, stated that she had given birth to a child out of wedlock in September 1890. Within the 12 calendar months following the birth of the child Ernest Francis of The Somerset Inn in St Thomas Street, named by Mary Morgan as the putative father of the child, had paid money for the maintenance of the child and had continued to do so for some time. However the most recent payment had been in May last and Mary Morgan now sought to obtain support from Ernest Francis for the child. The hearing was set for 13 August and Francis was advised that if he did not attend it was possible that the justices would make a judgement against him in his absence both for a maintenance order and for the costs of the case.</p> <p>At the hearing Mary Morgan stated that she had separated from her husband in 1886 after he had had an affair with a married woman. She still received money from her husband to support the youngest of the children that she had by him, but the others were making their own living and the amount that she was receiving from him had reduced to 7/6d per week. Ernest Francis had come to live with her in July or August 1887 and had been with her until May 1895. He had lived with her as a husband rather than a lodger and they had now had two children together, Henrietta born in 1890 and Rosina in 1893. Francis had</p>	1895/101

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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									regularly given her money towards the upkeep of the household and the children, although the amount was not necessarily the same every week. They had not had a formal agreement because Francis had continued to provide support to her on a regular basis until he left on 26 May. As he had not returned, she had taken out a summons to seek maintenance from him. Since the summons he had come back but for short periods only. Mary Morgan stated that Francis would often go to pick up the children from Mrs Price's house in Mill Lane, but testimony from James Price claimed that in the 5 years that he had lived there he had never seen anyone go in or out of Mary Morgan's house which was 3 doors away from his. The justices found that Mary Morgan's case was not proven and the case was dismissed. Detailed testimony for this case is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 August (see case 1895/118).	
Bisgood	John	Webb	Elizabeth	19	07	1895	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Elizabeth Webb of Bagley in the parish of Wedmore with obstructing the highway in Broad Street by parking a pony and cart there outside The Angel Inn on 16 July. Elizabeth Webb pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/102
Bisgood	John	Western Western Loxton	Henry William Edgar	19	07	1895	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Western, William Western and Edgar Loxton, all of South Street, with playing bat and ball in South Street and causing considerable annoyance and inconvenience to residents and passers-by. Frederick Parker of South Street was called upon to provide evidence for the prosecution. All the defendants were found guilty and each was fined 1/- including costs; all the fines were recorded as paid.	1895/103
Police		Price	Jane	30	07	1895	Theft of carving knife	T	Jane Price, wife of Thomas Price of Mill Lane, was charged with stealing a carving knife valued at 2/6d, the property of Charles Hutchins. The theft occurred on 29 July. She was found guilty and sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/104

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Reakes	Henry William	Cribb	James	30	07	1895	Theft of apples	T	Henry William Reakes of South Street complained that James Cribb of Town Hall Buildings had stolen apples from the trees in his garden on 29 July. The apples were valued at 1/-. James Cribb pleaded not guilty. Percival Reakes, 9-year old son of Henry Reakes, testified that he had seen Cribb throwing stones towards the house in order to knock apples from the tree. The apples that were knocked down were shared amongst Cribb and other boys. Cribb was found guilty and fined 1/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/105
Bisgood	John	Western Vernoun Coward Beaufort	James Charles James Frederick	30	07	1895	Gaming	G	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Western, Charles Vernoun, James Coward and Frederick Beaufort, all of Wells, with gaming in Burcot Road on 21 July by playing a game of chance called pitch and toss. Police serjeant Furze found the game in progress and also found money on the ground indicating that gambling was taking place. All the defendants pleaded guilty and each was fined 1/-; all fines were recorded as paid.	1895/106
Bisgood	John	Pitts	John	01	08	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Pitts of South Street, labourer, with using obscene language in Southover on 26 July. Pitts pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs; he was given one hour within which to pay.	1895/107
Bisgood	John	Morgan	Samuel	01	08	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Samuel Morgan of High Street, chimney sweep, with being drunk and disorderly in the Market Place on 26 July. Morgan pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/108
Bisgood	John	Ball	Frederick	01	08	1895	Drunk in charge of a horse and waggon	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Ball of St Thomas Street, carpenter, with being drunk in charge of a horse and waggon in High Street on 27 July. Ball pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs; he was given one hour within which to pay.	1895/109

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Stevens	Henry	01	08	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Stevens of South Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 27 July. The hearing was initially to take place on 8 August (see 1895/115), but at that meeting it was adjourned until 13 August. Stevens then pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/110
Bisgood	John	Vincent jnr	John	01	08	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Vincent the younger of Southover, mason, with using obscene language in High Street on 27 July. The hearing was initially to take place on 8 August (see 1895/115), but at that meeting it was adjourned until 13 August. Vincent was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs.	1895/111
Vincent	Henry	Allen	Albert Walter	01	08	1895	Theft of apples	T	Henry Vincent of High Street, fishmonger, complained that on 31 July Albert Walter Allen of St Cuthbert Street had stolen apples from his garden. The value of the apples was put at one penny. Allen pleaded not guilty. The case was subsequently withdrawn by Vincent (see also case 1895/100 for an earlier incident involving the same people).	1895/112
Furze	John	Hatcher Trine	Alfred Henry	01	08	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	Alfred Hatcher and Henry Trine, both of South Street and both described as labourers, were charged with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 26 July. Hatcher pleaded guilty to the charge, but Trine submitted a plea of not guilty. At around 11pm police serjeant Furze had encountered Hatcher who was drunk and making a lot of noise and advised him to go home. Hatcher refused and continued walking up and down South Street, Southover and St John Street shouting loudly. Trine was also present and had earlier been in the Market Place with Hatcher when they had both been advised to go home quietly by police serjeant Knight. Although both men eventually went home they had caused considerable disturbance and a large crowd had gathered because of their disorderly behaviour. Both were found guilty and were each fined 5/- including costs.	1895/113

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Eno	Henry	Hatcher Chapman	Alfred William	08	08	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	Alfred Hatcher and William Chapman were charged with being drunk and disorderly in High Street at around midday on 27 July. PC Eno saw them in the street, both were evidently drunk and offering to fight anyone who would challenge them. Eno advised them to go home quietly but they refused to do so and, with the assistance of PC Halley, he arrested both of them. Hatcher pleaded guilty to the charge but Chapman insisted that he was not guilty. Both were found guilty and each was required to pay a fine of 5/- including costs. Chapman was allowed until 4pm to pay. Note: the only documentation for this case is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 August (see case 1895/115).	1895/114
Justices		Various		08	08	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 8 August. The case against Alfred Hatcher and Henry Trine is recorded in an earlier entry, but the only documentation for the case against Alfred Hatcher and William Chapman is in these minutes (see also case 1895/114). Cases against Henry Stevens and John Vincent the younger are mentioned but both were adjourned to a later date (see cases 1895/110 and 1895/111).	1895/115
Collins	Edwin Adolphus	Western Perry Brown	James Frederick Harry	08	08	1895	Wilful damage	Wd	Edwin Adolphus Collins, churchwarden at St Cuthbert's church, complained that James Western, Frederick Perry and Harry Brown, all of Tucker Street, had wilfully damaged a lime tree in St Cuthbert's churchyard on 2 August. Western was seen to break a limb on the tree; the other two boys ran away. The estimated cost of the damage was 1/6d. Each of the three defendants was fined 1/- including costs. Note: the initial documents showed Walter Perry as one of the defendants but this was later changed to Frederick Perry.	1895/116
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		09	08	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1895/117

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Clarke	William	09	08	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Henry Clarke, aged 11, had made only 80 attendances in the period to 26 July when the school was open for 114 attendances. Henry Clarke was recorded as working towards standard IV. William Clarke of Miller's Gardens, St Thomas Street, Henry's father, did not appear at the hearing, although his wife did. A fine of 1/- was imposed.	1895/117a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Clarke	William	09	08	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that William Clarke, aged 10, had made only 88 attendances in the period to 26 July when the school was open for 114 attendances. Willie Clarke was recorded as working towards standard I. William Clarke of Miller's Gardens, St Thomas Street, Willie's father, did not appear at the hearing, although his wife did. A fine of 1/- was imposed.	1895/117b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Barnard	Leah	09	08	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Emily Davis, aged 11, had made only 43 attendances in the period to 31 July when the school was open for 74 attendances. Emily Davis was recorded as having achieved standard V. The case against Leah Barnard of New Inn Yard, Emily's guardian and the wife of James Barnard, was adjourned for 2 months until October.	1895/117c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	09	08	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Elizabeth Allen, aged 7, had made only 47 attendances in the period to 31 July when the school was open for 74 attendances. Elizabeth Allen was recorded as having achieved standard I. Jane Allen of St Thomas Street, Elizabeth's mother, attended the hearing and was fined 2/6d.	1895/117d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	James	09	08	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Alice Price, aged 12, had made only 45 attendances in the period to 31 July when the school was open for 74 attendances. Alice Price was recorded as having achieved standard IV. James Price of Tor Street, Alice's father, was fined 5/-.	1895/117e

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		13	08	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 August. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries, except for Sheldon v Willmott which was adjourned to a later session scheduled for 20 August (see case 1895/121). In addition to the minutes there is also a document that sets out a summary list of the fines imposed at that sitting.	1895/118
Lilly	George	Edmonds	William	15	08	1895	Theft of water	T	George Lilly, inspector for Wells Water Company, complained that In February 1895 William Edmonds of Henton in the parish of Wookey had attached a half-inch pipe to the water supply at No 9 Davis Terrace then occupied by Finlay Hamilton without the knowledge or consent of the Wells Water Company. The case was to be heard on 10 September but was adjourned to 10 October. At the hearing the case against Edmonds was dismissed although he was required to pay the costs of the action against him, although Hamilton was found guilty of commissioning the work and was fined (see case 1895/136).	1895/119
Osman	Frederick William	Moore	Ann	16	08	1895	Refusal to carry out work assigned	Rw	Frederick William Osman, master of Wells Union, complained that Ann Moore, an inmate, had refused to complete the work assigned to her on 3 successive days. She was assigned to pick 2lbs of oakum per day and delivered respectively 8ozs, 4ozs and 1lb at the end of the day. She was checked by the doctor to determine that she was fit for work and capable of carrying out a normal workload. Ann Moore claimed that she was doing the best that she could. She was sentenced to 7 days in prison.	1895/120
Justices		Various		20	08	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 20 August. The minutes deal exclusively with the case of Agnes Sheldon v James Willmott (see case 1895/096) and offer extremely detailed testimony, particularly from Agnes Sheldon - but nothing at all from James Willmott.	1895/121

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Osman	Frederick William	Maunder	Elizabeth	22	08	1895	Refusal to carry out work assigned	Rw	On 22 August Elizabeth Maunder had been given a task of picking 2lbs of oakum as her day's work in the Wells Union workhouse. Mary Jane Kendrick had checked on her work at 10.30am when Maunder said that she was finished for the day. This was reported to Frederick William Osman, master of the Wells Union, who found that at 11.45am Maunder was saying that she had done all she intended doing for the day. By that point she had picked 4ozs of oakum. Osman reported the case to the police and a prosecution was brought. Maunder was sentenced to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/122
Marsden	John	Maunder	William	23	08	1895	Assault	A	Late in the evening on 22 August William Maunder arrived at the workhouse and asked for casual relief. He was admitted but when he was searched by the porter, Charles Blizzard, he became abusive and resisted violently. Then when he was being moved to the ward he became more violent and struck John Marsden, an industrial trainer, in the face with his fist. Marsden had then held Maunder to the floor while Blizzard brought the master of the workhouse, Frederick William Osman. The police were called and police serjeant John Furze found considerable difficulty in getting a violent and abusive Maunder into the cells. Maunder was found guilty of assault and sentenced to one month in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/123
Bisgood	John	Scriven	William	31	08	1895	Drunk in charge of a horse and cart	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Scriven of Upton near Somerton with being drunk in charge of a horse and cart in the Market Place on 24 August. Police serjeant Knight saw Scriven staggering around in the Market Place and in no fit condition to drive a horse and cart. He also appeared to have with him a girl of about 12 who was in tears. Knight helped Scriven onto the cart and found someone else to drive him home. Scriven was fined 10/- with costs of 7/-.	1895/124

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Jenkins	William Henry	Barnard	William Charles	03	09	1895	Breach of local bye-laws	Br	William Henry Jenkins, Inspector of Nuisances, complained that William Charles Barnard of High Street, butcher, had breached local bye-laws on 14 August by keeping swine within 60 feet of a dwelling house. Barnard supposedly had 17 pigs within that distance of William Loxton's house in South Street. George Ricketts of South Street, retired builder, was called upon to give evidence for the prosecution. Jenkins issued a note warning Barnard that, since Barnard had refused him access to his premises, he would be asking the justices to grant him an order allowing him to inspect Barnard's stable and yard in South Street. At the hearing on 10 September the justices granted Jenkins an order authorising him to inspect Barnard's premises. Barnard pleaded not guilty to offending against the local bye-laws stating that after Jenkins had seen the pigs on 14 August he had removed them, but when Jenkins saw him again on 20 August Barnard refused to tell him the location to which the pigs had supposedly been moved. Barnard was fined £1 with costs of 11/-; these sums were recorded as paid.	1895/125
Bisgood	John	Rich	John	03	09	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Rich of Wells, labourer, with using obscene language in High Street on 25 August. Rich pleaded guilty to the charge. He was recorded as paying 16/- to cover fine and costs.	1895/126

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Brophy	Thomas	Cox Cox	Samuel Ada	04	09	1895	Assault	A	Thomas Brophy complained that Samuel Cox of Wells and Birmingham, pedlar, and his wife, Ada, had assaulted and beaten his wife, Elizabeth Brophy. At a hearing on 5 September Elizabeth Brophy testified that Ada Cox had come to the door of Brophy's inn, but she had recognised Cox from a previous encounter where Ada Cox had apparently assaulted her and so she refused her entry. Ada Cox had returned a little later asking to collect her husband's tools from the kitchen (he had apparently been there the previous day), but Elizabeth Brophy refused to hand them over and Ada Cox warned her that she would have to suffer the consequences. Some hours later Ada Cox returned with her husband and 3 children. They attempted to force their way in and Ada Cox allegedly struck Elizabeth Brophy in the face and abused her verbally using filthy language. Samuel Cox attempted to push Elizabeth Brophy aside and threatened both Thomas Brophy and his wife with a soldering iron. Eventually, after a stand-off of about 30 minutes Samuel and Ada Cox went away shouting abuse as they went. Samuel and Ada Cox were found guilty on a charge of assault and both were sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour.	1895/127
Trenchard	Henry	Reakes	George	07	09	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	George Reakes of Shepton Mallet, drover, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 6 September. Charles B Gardner had seen Reakes in St Cuthbert Street and considered that Reakes had had too much to drink and was swearing a lot with extremely bad language. PC Trenchard had encountered Reakes at the bottom of High Street where Reakes was using a lot of bad language and was clearly drunk. Reakes pleaded guilty to the charge and admitted that he had already served 21 days in prison for drunkenness. He was given a sentence of 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/128

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		10	09	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 September. In addition to cases recorded in previous entries it was noted that John Bisgood had delivered his report on licensed houses and that renewals of alcohol licences had been granted. In addition there was an application for the temporary transfer of the licence for The Star Hotel from the Bowns to Samuel Burge Cox; this was granted on payment of the transfer fee of 2/6d and the renewal fee of 8/6d.	1895/129
Thorn	Mary Ann	Thorn	Charles John	14	09	1895	Desertion of family	Ds	Mary Ann Thorn of The Queen's Head Inn complained that her husband, Charles John Thorn of Draycot, Shepton Mallet, tailor, had deserted her on 8 September and was refusing to provide maintenance for her. Mary Ann Thorn failed to appear at the hearing called for 17 September.	1895/130
Wilton	Mr			17	09	1895	Licence transfer application	La	Mr Wilton applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Red Ox from Mr Dyer. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1895/131
Police		Wilson	John	26	09	1895	Theft	T	John Wilson was charged with stealing a pair of boots valued at 8/- and a glass valued at 6d; both items were the property of Harriett Coles. Wilson was found guilty of the offence and sentenced to one calendar month in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/132
Police		Wilson	John	26	09	1895	Begging	V	John Wilson was charged with begging, a charge which he denied and pleaded not guilty. Charles Robert Ackland, landlord of The Mitre testified that Wilson had come into the bar in the early evening and said to Ackland that he wanted assistance. Ackland decided he was begging and asked him to leave but Wilson refused. Ackland then threatened to call the police and moved Wilson towards the door and eventually he walked out into the street. In total Wilson had been on the premises for about 5 minutes. Wilson was let off with a caution. Note: it is not clear from the way in which the document is drawn up if Wilson was indeed the defendant for this offence, but if not then it is even less clear who was the defendant.	1895/133

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Allen jnr	James	26	09	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Allen the younger of West Horrington with using obscene language in the Market Place on 7 September. Francis Guard of the Market Place, caretaker of the Constitutional Club, was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. James Allen pleaded not guilty but the evidence from PC Upham and Francis Guard led to his conviction. He was fined 10/- including costs and this sum was noted as paid.	1895/134
Bisgood	John	Taylor	Isaac	26	09	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Isaac Taylor of St Thomas Street, mason, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 7 September. Taylor pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs; this sum was noted as paid.	1895/135
Lilly	George	Hamilton	Finlay	26	09	1895	Theft of water	T	George Lilly of Queen Street, inspector for Wells Water Company, complained that in February 1895 Finlay Hamilton of No 9 Davis Terrace, tailor, had caused a half-inch pipe to be fitted to the service pipe through which water was supplied to the property. This was done without the knowledge or consent of Wells Water Company (presumably in order to obtain water without payment). Hamilton was fined 5/- plus costs of 7/-. Note: the case was originally brought against William Edmonds of Henton (see case 1895/119) and was due to be heard on 10 September, but was adjourned until 10 October.	1895/136
Boyce	William	Price jnr	James	28	09	1895	Wilful damage	Wd	William Boyce of No 14 Tor Street complained that on 27 September James Price the younger of No 13 Tor Street, labourer, had wilfully damaged a piece of iron shorting that was affixed to Boyce's property thus causing injury to the object itself and to the property. The amount of damage was assessed as not exceeding £5. James Price the younger pleaded guilty to the charge but the justices dismissed the case against him.	1895/137

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Lacy Galley	William Henry	30	09	1895	Operating as pedlars but without licences	V	Lacy and Galley were stopped by police serjeant Knight and also by PC Reade on 28 September when they appeared to be trying to sell their wares in High Street and Priest Row but without valid licences. Lacy claimed that he had given his licence away because he did not need a certificate as he made the products himself. Reade took them to the police station where he searched them and found Lacy's certificate. Both defendants were discharged.	1895/138
Bisgood	John	Price	Jane	30	09	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Jane Price of Mill Lane, charwoman, with using obscene language in Mill Lane on 24 September. A transcript of the words allegedly used by Jane Price was provided as part of the evidence. PC Upham had encountered Jane Price in Mill Lane where she was using disgraceful language with a crowd of boys and girls close by. John Ball of Mill Lane, labourer, was called to provide evidence for the prosecution and he testified that he had heard Jane Price swearing in the street and that she had come to his door and abused him.. Jane Price submitted a plea of not guilty but was found guilty and fined 5/- plus costs of 12/-. It appears that she could not or would not pay and she was noted as going to gaol.	1895/139

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Crick	Nathan William	Francis jnr Rogers (aka Garland)	Edward William	01	10	1895	Supplying incorrect weight of coal	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, Inspector of Weights and Measures, charged Edward Francis the younger of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, haulier and contractor, with supplying to the Wells Union an amount of coal which was less than the contracted amount. William Rogers alias Garland, also of Coxley, carter, was also charged with this offence for specifying the incorrect tare weight of the vehicle in which the coal was loaded when the laden vehicle was weighed at the public weighbridge. Francis had a contract to supply coal to the Wells Union. The coal was collected from the Wellsway Colliery near Radstock and the carter who collected the load on 6 September was William Rogers alias Garland. Francis had one small cart and two large carts used for transporting coal, one of the larger carts had a tare weight of 18cwt, the other a tare weight of 21cwt. Frederick Hambleton, weighman at Wellsway Colliery testified that the vehicle used for the load in question was the larger of these two vehicles. However, when the cart was weighed at the public weighbridge, William Rogers gave Mary Hayter, wife of Charles Hayter, the operator of the weighbridge, the weight of the smaller vehicle as the tare weight. Charles Hayter noted that he was not familiar with Rogers and had not seen him before. As a result, the Wells Union received a smaller amount of coal than had been ordered and agreed. Crick testified that he had checked the tare of the cart in the presence of Francis and both agreed that the tare was close to 21cwt. Crick noted that he did not believe that there had been a deliberate attempt to defraud. However, Francis was fined 10/- plus costs of 17/6d while Rogers was fined 5/- plus costs of 17/6d. Detailed testimony in this case can be found in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 October (case 1895/149).	1895/140
Bisgood	John	Scriven	William	01	10	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Scriven of Upton near Somerton, market gardener, with using obscene language in High Street on 28 September. A transcript of the words allegedly used by Scriven was presented as part of the evidence. Scriven was found guilty and fined 5/- plus costs of 7/-; the sum of 12/- was recorded as paid.	1895/141

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Damarel	Samuel	Miller	Albert	03	10	1895	Breach of local bye-laws	Br	Samuel Damarel, caretaker of Wells recreation ground, complained that on 29 September Albert Miller of South Street had committed a nuisance within the recreation ground in breach of the local bye-laws. Reuben Perry of South Street was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Albert Miller pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1895/142
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		04	10	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1895/143
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	William	04	10	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Allen of St Cuthbert Street was summoned for failing to ensure that his son, Walter Allen, attended school as often as required by the law. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Walter Allen had recorded 27 attendances out of a possible 48 over the recent period. Walter Allen, aged 11, was noted as having passed standard III. William Allen's wife attended the hearing. William Allen was fined 2/6d.	1895/143a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Say	Thomas	04	10	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Say of Priest Row was summoned for failing to ensure that his daughter, Ethel Say, attended school as often as required by the law. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Ethel Say had only made 21 attendances over the recent period when the school was open for 48 attendances. Ethel Say, aged 11, was noted as having passed standard IV. Thomas Say attended the hearing and admitted the complaint was justified, but because his wife was ill, then Ethel had needed to stay at home. The case against Thomas Say was dismissed.	1895/143b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Dix	John Henry	04	10	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John Henry Dix of Southover was summoned for failing to ensure that his daughter, Minnie Dix, attended school as often as required by the law. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Minnie Dix had only made 20 attendances in the recent period when the school was open for 48 attendances. Minnie Dix, aged 9, was noted as having passed standard II. The case was adjourned to the petty sessions sitting on 14 November and at that session the case against Dix was dismissed as Minnie's attendance had improved.	1895/143c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Snooks	Ann	04	10	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Ann Snooks of St Thomas Street was summoned for failing to ensure that her son, Albert Snooks, attended school as often as required by the law. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported Albert Snooks as having made 88 attendances over the recent period when the school was open for 114 attendances. Albert Snooks, aged 12, was noted as having passed standard IV. The case was adjourned to the petty sessions sitting on 14 November and at that session the case against Ann Snooks was dismissed as Albert's attendance had improved.	1895/143d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Snooks	Ann	04	10	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Ann Snooks of St Thomas Street was summoned for failing to ensure that her son, George Snooks, attended school as often as required by the law. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that George Snooks had made 89 attendances over the recent period when the school was open for 114 attendances. George Snooks, aged 10, was noted as having passed standard III. The case was adjourned to the petty sessions sitting on 14 November and at that session the case against Ann Snooks was dismissed as George's attendance had improved.	1895/143e

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Sheppard	Robert	04	10	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Robert Sheppard of St Thomas Street was summoned for failing to ensure that his son, William Sheppard, attended school as often as required by the law. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that William Sheppard had made 99 attendances over the recent period when the school was open for 114 attendances. William Sheppard, aged 13, was noted as having passed standard IV. Although Robert Sheppard was to be summoned, this decision was changed and the entry in Serel's list was struck through.	1895/143f
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		05	10	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that a number of individuals had not paid the general district rate set on 1 April 1895. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt are recorded in the succeeding entries.	1895/144
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	05	10	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	Henry Oxley, late of Tucker Street but now of Priest Row, was recorded as owing £1.4s.6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.7s.0d. Oxley was given until Saturday 12 October to pay the sums of 14/6d plus 2/6d and, if not settled by that date, a distress warrant would be issued to recover these sums together with a further sum of 3/6d for costs. Note: the original debt was shown as £1.4s.6d and there is no record of a payment of 10/- being made, so it is possible that the value of 14/6d shown on the document of 10 October is incorrect and should read £1.4s.6d.	1895/144a
Jenkins	William Henry	Barnard	William Charles	05	10	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	William Charles Barnard of High Street was recorded as owing 3/1d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 5/7d. The sum of 3/1d was recorded as being received.	1895/144b
Jenkins	William Henry	Hutchinson	Richard	05	10	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	Richard Hutchinson of Southover was recorded as owing 7/6d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 10/-.	1895/144c
Jenkins	William Henry	Granville	Walter	05	10	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	Walter Granville of Union Street was recorded as owing 5/- for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/6d. He was given until Saturday to pay off the outstanding debt. If not settled by that date, a distress warrant would be issued to recover these sums and a further charge of 3/6d for costs would be added to the debt for costs.	1895/144d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Brooks	Walter	05	10	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	Walter Brooks of High Street was recorded as owing £1.8s.4d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.10s.10d. The sum of £1.8s.0d was recorded as being received.	1895/144e
Jenkins	William Henry	Boyce	Walter John	05	10	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	William John Boyce of St Thomas Street, postman, was recorded as owing 5/- for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/6d.	1895/144f
Jenkins	William Henry	Stanton	William	05	10	1895	Non-payment of district rate	N	William Stanton of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 18/4d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.0s.10d. Stanton was given until Saturday 12 October to clear the sum of 8/4d plus 2/6d. If not settled by that date, a distress warrant would be issued to recover these sums and a further charge of 3/6d would be added to the debt for costs. Note: the original debt was recorded as 18/4d and there is no indication of a payment of 10/-, so it is possible that the value of 8/4d shown on the document of 10 October is incorrect and should have been 18/4d.	1895/144g
Blizzard	Charles	Hucker	Thomas Henry	07	10	1895	Absconding from Wells Union	Ab	Charles Blizzard, porter at Wells Union, complained that Thomas Henry Hucker had been admitted to the casual pauper ward at Wells Union on 5 October at 7pm, but he had then absconded before 8.30am the following morning by climbing over the big doors. Hucker pleaded guilty to the offence (a repeat of a number of similar incidents) and was sentenced to 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/145
Salmon	Henry L	Various		07	10	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon, collector of the poor rate for the In Parish of St Cuthbert, identified those individuals who had failed to pay the poor rate set on 18 June 1895. The individuals concerned and the amounts owing are recorded in the succeeding entries.	1895/146
Salmon	Henry L	Brooks	Walter	07	10	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Walter Brooks of No 78 High Street was recorded as owing 14/9d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 17/3d.	1895/146a
Salmon	Henry L	Oxley	Henry	07	10	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry Oxley of No 17 Priest Row was recorded as owing 4/9d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 7/3d.	1895/146b
Salmon	Henry L	Harris	Mrs	07	10	1895	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mrs Harris of York Terrace, Burcot Road was recorded as owing 5/- for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d in costs making a total of 7/6d.	1895/146c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Bisgood	John	Harris	Edward George	08	10	1895	Offence against Licensing Act	L	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edward George Harris of The Rose and Crown Inn in St John Street with an offence against the Licensing Act by opening his licensed premises for the retail sale of beer at 9am on Sunday 6 October, a time at which licensed premises were required to be closed. Harris submitted a doctor's note declaring that he had taken ill and was unavailable to attend the hearing, but his wife attended in his place. Ernest Collins of South Street was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. PC Upham stated that he had been watching The Rose and Crown Inn early on Sunday morning. At around 8.10am he saw Mrs Bown and a man enter the premises and at 8.40am Ernest Collins, a young boy, son of Mrs Bown, appeared and tapped on a window. The window was opened and the boy was handed a bag which appeared to be quite heavy. When the boy set off PC Upham followed him and stopped him. He found that the bag contained 3 pints of beer in a milk churn and another pint of beer in a bottle. The boy said that they were for Mrs Stokes and Mrs Allen and that he had been given them by Mrs Harris. When Upham questioned Edward Harris and his wife, Harris asked him to overlook the problem on this occasion, but Upham said it was not possible for him to do so. Harris was found guilty and fined 10/- with costs of 10/-; these sums were recorded as paid. Detailed testimony can be found in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 October (case 1895/149).	1895/147

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Russ	Alfred George	Tanner Tanner	Herbert Walter	10	10	1895	Removal to another parish	Tr	Alfred George Russ, clerk to the Guardians of Wells Union, made an application for the transfer of Herbert Tanner aged 8 and Walter Tanner aged 6 from the Wells Union to the Shepton Mallet Union. The reason for this application was that the two boys did not have any legal settlement within the area covered by the Wells Union, but did have one in Upton Noble lying within the area covered by the Shepton Mallet Union. The boys' father, Jacob Tanner, had lived in the parish of Upton Noble until September 1892 when he left for New Zealand. He made provision for the boys by leaving a sum of money, specifically £64, with his brother, Abel Tanner, to be used for their maintenance until he returned or sent for them to go to New Zealand. Abel Tanner lodged the boys with Mrs Crabb, a widow living in Wells, and paid her 6/- per week to look after them. However, these payments ceased in September 1894. Mrs Crabb maintained the boys at her own expense until December 1894 when they were put into the workhouse of the Wells Union where they became chargeable to the Common Fund. The justices approved the order to transfer the boys to the Shepton Mallet Union.	1895/148
Justices		Various		10	10	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 October. The minutes largely deal with the case against Edward Francis and William Rogers (see case 1895/140) and the case against Edward Harris (see case 1895/147).	1895/149
Bisgood	John	Witcombe Matthews	Frederick William	15	10	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Witcombe and William Matthews, both of St Thomas Street, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 6 October. Testimony from Elsie Wickham of No 44 St Thomas Street stated that she had heard them using bad language as they were coming down the steps from The Lamb Inn. Both defendants were found guilty and fined 5/- each including costs. Matthews was noted as having paid his fine, while Witcombe was given until Saturday to pay.	1895/150

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Towell	Thomas	15	10	1895	Cruelty to a horse	C	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Towell of Gurney Slade with cruelty to a horse by working it when it was in an unfit state on 7 October. The horse was found to have large wounds under the collar and also on the back; these were longstanding wounds with scabs of hard, dried blood, so the horse had been worked for some time with the injuries. Towell was found guilty and fined 5/- plus costs of 7/- making a total of 12/-.	1895/151
Bisgood	John	Matthews	John	15	10	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Matthews of Paulton with using obscene language in Sadler Street on 5 October at around 11pm. Matthews was shouting drunkenly in the street for around 15 minutes and attracted a crowd of around 40 people. There was clearly uncertainty as to the name of the individual to be charged and where he lived because at the time of his arrest Matthews gave his name as John Thomas. Both entries were changed at least once and in the end PC Meades had to go to Midsomer Norton to identify Matthews. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 December Matthews was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1895/152
Perry	James	Cooper	Jesse	21	10	1895	Theft of money	T	James Perry complained that 6d in cash had been stolen from him by Jesse Cooper. Cooper was initially remanded until the following day when the evidence in the case was taken. Having heard the evidence the justices discharged Jesse Cooper and ruled that no allowance would be granted to Perry for his costs.	1895/153
Walker	T W			30	10	1895	Licence extension application	La	T W Walker applied for a one-hour extension of his alcohol licence in order to host the Foresters' dinner that evening. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1895/154

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Collins	Edwin Adolphus	Drew Bryant Loxton Ball	William Reginald Edgar Harry	30	10	1895	Throwing stones in the street	Bp	Edwin Adolphus Collins of Priory Road complained that William Drew and Reginald Bryant, both of South Street, together with Edgar Loxton of High Street and Harry Ball of Mill Lane had been wantonly throwing stones in Priory Road. George Brewer of Priory Place and Albert Price of Mill Lane were called to provide evidence for the prosecution. Drew was ill and unable to attend the hearing; the other defendants pleaded not guilty. George Brewer had seen one stone thrown at his door, Edwin Adolphus Collins claimed to have heard several stones thrown against doors, while Agnes Vincent and Albert Price suggested that 4 stones had been thrown and Ada Loxton stated that she had seen Albert Price throw 4 or 5 stones (although Albert Price was not one of the defendants). The justices determined that they would deal with Drew at a later date and dismissed the charges against the other three defendants, none of whom had actually been seen to throw any stones.	1895/155
Bisgood	John	Marshall	Frederick	30	10	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Marshall of St Thomas Street, labourer, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 12 October. Marshall was found guilty and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1895/156
Bisgood	John	Gregory	Emily	30	10	1895	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Emily Gregory of Union Street, wife of Henry Gregory, with being drunk in Union Street on 13 October. She was found lying in the street and was quite helpless. She claimed that her husband had knocked her down. The hearing was initially planned for 14 November but was adjourned. At the petty sessions sitting on 12 December Emily Gregory was fined 2/6d including costs; this sum was recorded as paid. Note: the initial documents gave the defendant's name as Ann Gregory but these entries were subsequently modified.	1895/157

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Jenkins	William Henry	Charles	William	31	10	1895	Overcrowded tenement	E	William Henry Jenkins, acting as Inspector of Nuisances, charged William Charles of High Street, butcher, with overcrowding his tenement at No 11c South Street where there was deemed to be insufficient sleeping room to accommodate the number of occupants. This was creating an environment that was dangerous and injurious to health (see also cases 1895/159, 1895/160 and 1895/161). At the hearing on 14 November William Charles stated that he had served Alfred Hatcher with a notice to quit (following the visit from the Inspector of Nuisances on 3 September), but Hatcher still retained possession of the property because he claimed that he could not get another house (see also case 1895/165).	1895/158
Jenkins	William Henry	Charles	William	31	10	1895	Failure to clean property	E	William Henry Jenkins, acting as Inspector of Nuisances, charged William Charles of High Street, butcher, with failing to comply with a written instruction issued by the local authority on 3 September to thoroughly cleanse and limewash the whole of the interior of the property at No 11c South Street then in the occupation of Alfred Hatcher. The order stipulated that, as the owner of the property, Charles was to ensure that the work was carried out within 7 days and it had not been undertaken (see also cases 1895/158, 1895/160 and 1895/161). At the hearing on 14 November William Charles stated that he would undertake the necessary cleaning and limewashing on the property as soon as Alfred Hatcher had vacated the premises (see also case 1895/165).	1895/159
Jenkins	William Henry	Hatcher	Alfred	31	10	1895	Overcrowded tenement	E	William Henry Jenkins, acting as Inspector of Nuisances, charged Alfred Hatcher of Merchant's Court, South Street, labourer, with allowing the tenement at No 11c South Street to become overcrowded because there was insufficient sleeping room to accommodate the number of occupants. As a result of his default, Hatcher was creating an environment that was dangerous and injurious to health (see also cases 1895/158, 1895/159 and 1895/161). Alfred Hatcher had already been given notice to quit by William Charles (see case 1895/165) but had not done so because he claimed he could not find another house.	1895/160

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Jenkins	William Henry	Hatcher	Alfred	31	10	1895	Failure to clean property	E	William Henry Jenkins, acting as Inspector of Nuisances, charged Alfred Hatcher of Merchant's Court, South Street, labourer, with failing to comply with a written instruction issued by the local authority on 3 September to thoroughly cleanse and limewash the whole of the interior of the property at No 11c South Street. The order stipulated that, as the occupier of the property, Hatcher was to ensure that the work was carried out within 7 days and it had not been undertaken (see also cases 1895/158, 1895/159 and 1895/160).	1895/161
Crick	Nathan William	Lewis Lewis	Reginald Stanley	05	11	1895	Unjust weights	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, Inspector of Weights and Measures, charged Reginald Lewis and Stanley Lewis of High Street, pork butchers trading as Lewis and Co, with having in their possession on 5 November for use in trade a number of weights that were incorrect and unfair to their customers, since they weighed less than the stated weight. The weights in question were one 56lb weight, two 28lb weights, one 14lb weight and one 2lb weight. The defendants were found guilty, the weights forfeited and a fine of £1 imposed plus costs of 6/-.	1895/162
Crick	Nathan William	Lewis Lewis	Reginald Stanley	05	11	1895	Unjust weights	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, Inspector of Weights and Measures, charged Reginald Lewis and Stanley Lewis of High Street, pork butchers trading as Lewis and Co, with having in their possession on 5 November for use in trade a weighing instrument, specifically a scale beam, that was invalid by not having been stamped as required by the Weights and Measures Act of 1889. Crick also noted that he should have been made aware of the beam at an earlier inspection in 1893. The beam was to be forfeited unless stamped, but this provision in the judgement was then struck out. The defendants were fined 10/- plus costs of 6/-.	1895/163

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Upham	William	Crouch	Eliza	05	11	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Upham charged Eliza Crouch with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 4 November. She pleaded not guilty to the charge. PC Upham testified that he had found Crouch in High Street at around midday leaning against a wall and using disgraceful language. He moved her on but outside The Hearts of Oak she began to shout abuse at someone inside the inn and at that point Upham took her to the police station. Crouch stated that she belonged to Heavitree near Exeter and she had been in and around Wells for about one month. Her husband was currently in Brixham. On the day of her arrest she had come from Wookey and had visited one or two pubs including The Angel. She was found guilty of the charge and fined 5/- or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. She was recorded as going to gaol.	1895/164
Charles	William	Hatcher	Alfred	05	11	1895	Eviction notice	Ev	William Charles of High Street issued to Alfred Hatcher, labourer, a written instruction to deliver up the property at No 11c South Street that he was renting from Charles. The notice was sent on 7 September with the property to be handed over by 14 September, since the rental agreement was on a week to week basis. As Hatcher had not given up the property, Charles advised him on 5 November that he would be applying for an eviction order at the petty sessions sitting on 14 November. At the hearing the justices granted Charles an eviction order that would become effective in 22 days. Charles promised to undertake the cleaning and limewashing that had been ordered as soon as the premises became vacant. See also cases 1895/158, 1895/159, 1895/160 and 1895/161 for other matters concerning these individuals and this property.	1895/165

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Bisgood	John	Free Crate	Thomas Thomas	07	11	1895	Throwing stones in the street	Bp	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Free of Southover and Thomas Crate of St John Street with throwing stones in Priory Road on 3 November. Lionel Loxton of High Street, aged 10, was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. He testified that he had heard Free and Crate say that they would try and break some windows in the school. They had then gone down Priory Road and when they were opposite Collins' shop they picked up stones and began to throw them at the school windows. After about 5 minutes they stopped and went back towards the Market Place. The costs of the case were recorded as 10/6d and Free and Crate, both of whom who pleaded guilty, were fined 5/6d each; the fines were recorded as paid.	1895/166
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		07	11	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries. In this instance the only parent involved was Thomas Price.	1895/167
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	Thomas	07	11	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Price of No 9 South Street was summoned because over the four weeks leading up to 31 October he had failed to ensure that his son, Frank Price, aged 5, attended school regularly as required by law. Thomas Price had previously been warned about this failure but had not taken the appropriate action. At the hearing on 14 November the justices issued an order that Frank Price should attend St Thomas School on every day that it was open for attendance; the managers of that school had agreed to accept Frank Price as a pupil.	1895/167a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	Thomas	07	11	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Price of No 9 South Street was summoned because over the four weeks leading up to 31 October he had failed to ensure that his son, Albert Price, aged 10, attended school regularly as required by law. Thomas Price had previously been warned about this failure but had not taken the appropriate action. At the hearing on 14 November the justices issued an order that Albert Price should attend St Thomas School on every day that it was open for attendance; the managers of that school had agreed to accept Albert Price as a pupil.	1895/167b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	Thomas	07	11	1895	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Price of No 9 South Street was summoned because over the four weeks leading up to 31 October he had failed to ensure that his daughter, Mary Ann Price, aged 9, attended school regularly as required by law. Thomas Price had previously been warned about this failure but had not taken the appropriate action. At the hearing on 14 November the justices issued an order that Mary Ann Price should attend St Thomas School on every day that it was open for attendance; the managers of that school had agreed to accept Mary Ann Price as a pupil.	1895/167c
Bisgood	John	Stevens	Frederick	08	11	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Stevens of Southover, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in St John Street on 1 November. Stevens pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs. Stevens was recorded as having paid the fine.	1895/168
Wilkins	John	Allen	Albert Walter	11	11	1895	Theft of sweets	T	John Wilkins of St Thomas Street complained that on 9 November Albert Allen had stolen from him sweets to the value of 2d. Allen pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/-; he was allowed until Saturday to pay.	1895/169

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Bisgood	John	Hawkins	Edward	11	11	1895	Poaching	Pc	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edward Hawkins of St Thomas Street, butcher, with engaging in poaching on 7 November. PC William Meades stopped Hawkins at around 11.45pm when he appeared to be returning with his black lurcher dog from an area in which game and rabbits were commonly found and, on being searched, Hawkins was found to have in his possession a type of net which was commonly used in poaching and which appeared to have been used recently because it was wet. Hawkins denied the charge and wrote a letter to police serjeant Knight demanding the return of items that had been confiscated from him by the constable on the previous evening. These items comprised cash to the value of £2.7s.11¹/₂d, a handkerchief and a net. Failure to return them would prompt action from Hawkins to secure them. At the hearing, where Hawkins had employed a solicitor, Meades denied taking either a handkerchief or money from Hawkins and had confiscated only the net. Hawkins stated that he had been with William Charles Barnard, butcher, at Gould's farm at Milton in the afternoon and they had been using ferrets to flush out rabbits near The Warren. The net that he had in his pocket was used for the ferrets and actually belonged to Barnard. After they had finished they went first to Gould's farm for a drink and then walked back to Barnard's premises in Wells to drop off the ferrets. Hawkins had stayed for a while and had then gone to The Fountain Inn where he met William Matthews. Despite the lateness of the hour Hawkins had persuaded Matthews to help him with two cows and they had not finished until around 11.30pm. Both Barnard and Matthews confirmed that Hawkins had money wrapped in a handkerchief which he kept in his pocket. The justices dismissed the case against Hawkins because of insufficient evidence. Detailed testimony relating to this case is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 November (case 1895/176).</p>	1895/170

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Main	Matthew	11	11	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Matthew Main of Priddy, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly In Bristol Road on 9 November. Main pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- plus costs of 6/- making a total of 11/-. The sum of 11/- was recorded as paid.	1895/171
Lane	Mary	Lane	Henry	12	11	1895	Assault	A	<p>Mary Lane of South Street complained that on 11 November she had been assaulted and beaten by her husband, Henry Lane, upholsterer. Elizabeth Parker of South Street, wife of Frederick Parker, and Bessie Parker, her daughter, also of South Street were summoned to give evidence on behalf of Mary Lane. Henry Lane had come home at 10pm having been drinking most of the day, verbally abused his wife and threw an umbrella at her. She had fled the house together with one of her children, but Lane had chased them into the street, struck his wife in the head with his fists and kicked her several times. Mary Lane was helped by the intervention of her neighbours and the arrival of PC Upham. Despite Upham being pushed out by Henry Lane, Mary Lane eventually got back into her home and her husband went to sleep at around 2.45am. At the hearing on 13 November (of which there is detailed testimony included in the documentation) Henry Lane was found guilty of aggravated assault and bound over in the sum of £10 to keep the peace for the next 6 months, particularly in respect of his wife, Mary Lane. Henry Lane was also fined £1 plus costs of 15/- and given until Saturday week to pay or to serve one month in gaol. The justices also issued an order stating that Mary Lane should no longer be bound to co-habit with Henry Lane and instructed Henry Lane that he must pay his wife the sum of 15/- per week for the maintenance and support of herself and her family, as she was also granted custody of all the children of their marriage, namely: Florence Annie Lane, aged 16; Edith Lane, aged 13; Albert Ernest Lane, aged 12; Rose Maud Lane, aged 8; Joseph Charles Lane, aged 6; William John Lane, aged 3; and Arthur Lane, aged 7 months; the two eldest children were no longer living at home and the eldest was earning 1/9d per week.</p>	1895/172

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Burke	Martin	Loxton	William	12	11	1895	Assault	A	<p>Martin Burke of South Street complained that on 9 November he had been attacked and assaulted by William Loxton of No 27 South Street. Burke had apparently been lodging at Loxton's but when he informed Loxton that he would not be sleeping there that night Loxton had immediately thrown him out of the house. Burke claimed that Loxton had been drinking and had given him a black eye. Police witnesses confirmed that Burke had blood running down his face, but it may have been that Burke, too, had been drinking. Loxton was ordered to pay the costs of the case of 8/-.</p> <p>Note: the documents prepared for the case show the address of Loxton as No 27 South Street, but in the minutes the address is given as Southover. This may be an error in the minutes.</p>	1895/173
Blackwell	Thomas	Sedgwick	Thomas Saville	12	11	1895	Embezzlement Theft of funds (as bailee)	Em T	<p>On 12 November Thomas Blackwell, clerk at the St Cuthbert Paper Works, complained that Thomas Saville Sedgwick, late of No 138 Nicholson Avenue, Edinburgh, had used his position as the treasurer of the Wells Wesleyan Sunday Schools to fraudulently divert monies belonging this institution for his own use. Blackwell alleged that the fraud took place between 1 November 1894 and 31 August 1895. Sedgwick was described as the bailee of various sums of money, namely £1.9s.6d in the General Account, 4/- in the Library Account, £7.9s.4½/2d in the Treat Account and £21.0s.2d in the Clothing Account. In total the sums involved came to £30.3s.0½/2d which Sedgwick stood accused of diverting to his own use. Edward Athelstane Serel of New Street, Charles Henry Rummings of No 28 Sadler Street and James Russell of No 4 Tucker Street were summoned to the hearing on 20 November to provide evidence for the prosecution. At the hearing Sedgwick was charged with two counts, one of embezzlement and one of larceny as a bailee. Evidence was taken in detail and at the conclusion he was bound over in the sum of £25 to attend for judgement when called upon (at any point in the next two years) and in the meantime to be of good behaviour.</p>	1895/174

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Langley	Emma	Langley	Simeon	13	11	1895	Maintenance order	Mo	On 5 March 1895 Emma Langley was granted a maintenance order against her husband, Simeon Langley, on the grounds of his desertion (see case 1895/023). The justices then ordered Simeon Langley to pay his wife the sum of 5/- per week with effect from 5 March. Emma Langley brought a complaint on 13 November stating that Simeon Langley had made no payments and was therefore 37 weeks in arrears amounting to £9.5s.0d. The justices ordered that Simeon Langley should now pay his wife 7/6d per week of which 2/6d would be a contribution to reducing the arrears.	1895/175
Justices		Various		14	11	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 November. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant information from the minutes incorporated. A substantial portion of the minutes contains the testimony in the case against Edward Hawkins (see case 1895/170).	1895/176
Bennett	W J			18	11	1895	Licence extension application	La	W J Bennett applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence on 19 November in order to host the Druids' Annual Meeting.	1895/177
Wilton	John			22	11	1895	Licence transfer application	La	John Wilton submitted an application for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Red Ox Inn to William Elling Dann, late of The Dolphin, Christchurch. The application was granted on payment of a fee of 3/6d. Note: the note from the petty sessions sitting appears to show that Dann's previous location was 'Christchurch Haut & 40 Bayates'. It is not clear what this means.	1895/178
Police		Hooper	William	28	11	1895	Begging	V	William Hooper was charged with begging in High Street. Hooper pleaded guilty to asking for a bun. He was discharged.	1895/179
Bisgood	John	Miller	Frederick	30	11	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Miller of Southover, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 16 November. Miller had been making rude remarks to female passers-by, was shouting a good deal and wanted to fight. Police witnesses persuaded one of his friends to take him home. Miller was fined 5/- including costs.	1895/180

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Richards	Andrew William	Andow	John	03	12	1895	Detaining identity document	T	Andrew William Richards stayed at John Andow's house in South Street for a period prior to 1 October 1895. He then moved on to Bristol and then back to Wells by 21 October. When he left Andow's house to go to Bristol he placed some papers, including his naval pension identity certificate, with Andow's daughter for safekeeping. On returning to Wells, Richards asked Andow for the papers and alleged that Andow refused to let him have the papers unless he was paid a sovereign. On 3 December Andow told Richards that he had sent the papers to London, while Andow's daughter stated that she did not know what had happened to the papers, but thought that her father had locked them up. Correspondence from The Admiralty on 21 November, 24 November and 3 December appeared to indicate that Andow had been in touch with The Admiralty and seemed to have sent some papers that were acknowledged as having been received. Andow had also requested Richards' address from The Admiralty (possibly to let him know what had happened to his documents) but they would not divulge that information until Richards next applied for his pension. Note: The Admiralty consistently addressed Andow as Andrews.	1895/181
Knight	James	Andow	George	04	12	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Knight charged George Andow of St Thomas Street with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street at 11.45pm on 30 November. Andow was apparently using bad language, had a quarrel with Edward Hawkins and tried to rush the arresting officer who was trying to get Andow to the police station. Andow was locked up overnight, released on bail on the Sunday morning and subsequently fined 5/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1895/182

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Barnard	William Charles	05	12	1895	Cruelty to cows	C	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Charles Barnard of High Street, butcher, with cruelty to 3 cows on 12 November by beating them with a stick and violently twisting their tails. John Robert Collins of St Cuthbert Street was called to provide evidence for the prosecution. Police serjeant James Knight saw Barnard trying to get several cows down a narrow passage to his slaughter house, but the cows were reluctant to go and were panicked. Knight saw Barnard hit one of the animals with a stick giving it a violent blow between the nose and the eyes. He also saw Barnard and James White beating the rumps of the cows and twisting their tails over their backs to move them through the passage. John Reid, veterinary surgeon, examined the animal that had been violently struck by Barnard and could find no evidence of cruelty, although both he and Knight noted that hitting the animal on the bone and twisting their tails would actually leave no marks. Barnard and James White, another butcher who had been helping Barnard, both insisted that there had been no cruelty. The justices found the charge of cruelty not fully proven but required Barnard to pay the costs of 14/-; this sum was recorded as paid.	1895/183
Bisgood	John	Burridge	Ann	05	12	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ann Burridge of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, wife of Charles Burridge, millhand, with using obscene language when she was with her daughter in High Street on 23 November. Ann Burridge pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs. She was given until Saturday to pay.	1895/184
Bisgood	John	Hatcher	Elizabeth	05	12	1895	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Elizabeth Hatcher of South Street, wife of Alfred Hatcher, with using obscene language in South Street on 5 December. The case documentation includes a transcript of the words that Elizabeth Thatcher allegedly used, apparently to her husband. At the hearing she pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs. She was allowed one month within which to pay.	1895/185

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Rose	Arthur	05	12	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Arthur Rose of Wookey Hole in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, paper maker, with being drunk and disorderly in Portway on 3 December. Police serjeant Furze stopped Rose and his 3 companions at around 10.45pm when Rose was singing and shouting. Supported by his friends to stop him falling over, Rose was clearly drunk. Furze persuaded Rose's companions to take him home. Rose was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs, the fine to be paid forthwith.	1895/186
Bisgood	John	Sherring Garrett Dunsford	Walter George James	09	11	1895	Obstructing the footway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Walter Sherring, aged 15, and George Garrett, aged 18, of High Street and James Dunsford of Sadler Street, all described as baker's assistants, with wilfully blocking the footway through Penniless Porch on 10 November by standing there and preventing other people from passing through. They were also whistling, shouting and making remarks about people who were passing. Sherring was described as being a great deal worse than the other two. Each of the defendants was fined 3/6d including costs; all the fines were noted as paid. Note: the surname of one of the defendants appears to be 'Shirren' in the documentation preparing the case but as 'Sherring' in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 December.	1895/187
Justices		Various		12	12	1895	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 December. All the cases heard are documented in earlier entries. Note: the minutes of the petty sessions sitting incorporate some rough notes relating to the case for cruelty against William Charles Barnard. They essentially duplicate the information that appears in the main body of the minutes.	1895/188

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Claus Claus	Alfred Hannah	19	12	1895	Theft	T	Alfred Claus and his wife, Hannah Claus, were detained on suspicion of the theft of a shirt valued at 8/-. The shirt was the property of Ann Baker and the theft took place on 17 December. Claus and his wife were also suspected of the theft of a pair of pliers, a pair of scissors and a file with a total value of 3/6d. These were the property of Charles Morris of Shepton Mallet and the theft took place on 16 December. Alfred and Hannah Claus were remanded in custody until Saturday 21 December. At that hearing evidence was taken regarding the theft from Charles Morris. Alfred and Hannah Claus were each sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1895/189
Police		Balon	Richard	23	12	1895	Drunk and disorderly	D	Richard Balon was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 21 December. He was standing in the centre of the road shouting abuse and attracting a crowd of people. He was found guilty and fined 5/- plus costs. He either could not or would not pay and went to gaol.	1895/190

1896

Bisgood	John	Francis	Elizabeth	04	01	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Elizabeth Francis of South Street, married woman, with using obscene language in South Street on 14 December 1895. The documentation contains a transcript of the words that Elizabeth Francis was alleged to have used to her neighbours. At the hearing on 13 January Elizabeth Francis pleaded not guilty. When she returned home at around 12.30am she found that she had been locked out of the house by her husband. She had then begun kicking the door, shouting and swearing. This had prompted some of her neighbours to come out and tell her to be quiet and her response to them was to use more bad language. PC Meades had tried to persuade her to calm down but with minimal success, so he had been forced to issue a summons. Elizabeth Francis was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs, the fine to be paid by 4pm that day.	1896/001
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Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Savage	Alfred	04	01	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Alfred Savage of Bath Road in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 24 December 1895. The documentation contains a transcript of the words that Alfred Savage was alleged to have used. Alfred Savage, who was not 16 until October, the youngest of 9 children, was working for Mr Hippisley and earning 4/6d per week. He was found guilty of the offence and fined 2/6d including costs to be paid by 4pm that day.	1896/002
Bisgood	John	Summers	Mary	04	01	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mary Summers of Mill Lane with using obscene language in High Street on 18 December 1895. There were complaints from members of the public about the language being used near Collins' shop. Mary Summers was found guilty and sentenced to 14 days in prison. Note: it may have originally been the intention to fine her but that word is crossed out and a prison sentence substituted. The prison sentence may have been determined in part on her recent record which included two cases of refractory behaviour in the workhouse (see cases 1894/067 and 1894/147) and another instance of using obscene language (see case 1895/065).	1896/003
Bisgood	John	Moon	Henry	04	01	1896	Asleep in charge of horse and waggon	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Moon of Silver Street, Shepton Mallet, with not being in a position to control the movement of the horse and waggon for which he was responsible as the driver. PC Upham had found a horse and waggon standing in High Street with no-one apparently in charge of it. He found Moon asleep in the waggon and, on being woken, Moon suggested that he was in Weston-super-Mare. The case against Moon was dismissed.	1896/004
Police		Baker	Caroline	06	01	1896	Refusal to work	Rw	Caroline Baker was charged with refractory conduct in Wells Union workhouse on 4 January; this normally implies a refusal to carry out the work assigned. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1896/005

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Hucker	Thomas Henry	09	01	1896	Absconding from Wells Union	Ab	Thomas Henry Hucker had been taken into the Wells Union as a casual pauper. However, on 8 January he had absconded by discharging himself before he was entitled to do so. This was not the first time that he had behaved in this manner and he was already described as being an idle and disorderly person and as a rogue and a vagabond. He was sentenced to 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet (having already served several terms of this length and having not long been released).	1896/006
Police		Goldberg	Lewis	09	01	1896	Theft of a dog collar	T	Lewis Goldberg was charged with the theft of a dog collar valued at 1/-, the property of Harry Fry. The theft took place on 8 January. Goldberg was found guilty and fined the sum of £1 including costs.	1896/007
Hayter	Charles	Ridley	John	09	01	1896	Assault	Ab	Charles Hayter of the public weighbridge in Wells complained that he had been assaulted by John Ridley of St Thomas Street on 28 December 1895. Neither party appeared at the hearing.	1896/008
Bisgood	John	Trim	Ann	09	01	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ann Trim of Loxton's Court, High Street, wife of Ernest Trim, with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 4 January. Police serjeant Furze had encountered her at around 11.15pm, shouting and making a lot of noise with a group of people around her. Furze was able to persuade her to go home but only after some time. Ann Trim pleaded not guilty and the case against her was dismissed.	1896/009
Bisgood	John	Bryant	Henry	09	01	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Bryant of The Nag's Head in Sadler Street, where he was an ostler, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 5 January. Bryant pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs.	1896/010
Justices		Various		13	01	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 January. All the cases heard are documented in earlier entries and the relevant information from the minutes incorporated.	1896/011

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Sherston	John Davis	Free Crate	Thomas Thomas	16	01	1896	Wilful damage	Wd	John Davis Sherston, acting through the agency of Chubbs Solicitors, complained that on 12 January Thomas Free, aged 15, and Thomas Crate, aged 14, had wilfully damaged a wall in Priory Road which was Sherston's property. The damage to the wall was assessed at 1/9d. Both boys pleaded guilty to the offence. Each was fined £1 with payment to be made forthwith or else they were to be sent to prison for 14 days. Note: it appears that as a further consequence of this conviction Thomas Free was to be sent to a reformatory. There were several previous incidents involving Thomas Free appearing before the petty sessions justices.	1896/012
Police		Woodburn Chappell	Walter Ernest	18	01	1896	Theft / burglary	T	Walter Woodburn and Ernest Chappell were charged with burglary at premises in Priory Road and stealing a quantity of sweets and a quarter of a pound of tea. These items were the property of John Wilkins. In addition to Wilkins, Mary Thorn and James Knight were witnesses in the case. Both boys were found guilty of the offence and were each sentenced to 6 strokes of the birch rod.	1896/013
Police		Smith	Sarah	20	01	1896	Drunkenness	D	Sarah Smith was charged with being drunk on Cathedral Green on the preceding Saturday (18 January). Smith pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. Sarah Smith went to gaol.	1896/014

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Hudson	George	Willmott	Thomas	31	01	1896	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	<p>George Hudson of the Market Place, innkeeper, complained that on 11 January Thomas Willmott of Croscombe had become noisy and disorderly when on Hudson's premises. Willmott and Charles Parker (see case 1896/016) had come into The Crown Inn together and ordered some beer. Willmott announced to the landlord that he would like to sing and tried to climb up on a settle despite Hudson telling him not to do so. This led to an argument and Hudson had then requested that Willmott leave forthwith, but Willmott refused, thereby committing an offence against the Licensing Act. Willmott took off his coat and threatened to fight Hudson, but had put his coat back on before police serjeant Knight arrived. While Hudson was in discussion with the police officer, Willmott took the opportunity to slip away. Witnesses summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - George Brewer c/o Mr Johnson of Broad Street and - James Blagdon of Southover, shoemaker. <p>There was no suggestion from the witnesses that Willmott or Parker were drunk.</p> <p>Willmott did not appear at the hearing. The justices determined that Willmott should be fined £1 including costs.</p>	1896/015

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hudson	George	Parker	Charles	31	01	1896	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	George Hudson of the Market Place, innkeeper, complained that on 11 January Charles Parker of Croscombe, quarryman, had become noisy and disorderly when on Hudson's premises. Parker had come into The Crown Inn together with Thomas Willmott (see case 1896/015) and they had ordered some beer. After the incident with Willmott and his departure Hudson had found Parker in the back room of the inn quarrelling with another man (Mark Bishop, see case 1896/017). Hudson had separated them and asked Parker to leave forthwith, but Parker refused, thereby committing an offence against the Licensing Act. Witnesses summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution were - George Brewer c/o Mr Johnson of Broad Street and - James Blagdon of Southover, shoemaker. There was no suggestion that Parker or Willmott were drunk. Parker was found guilty and fined 7/- plus costs of 13/- giving a total of £1.	1896/016

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Bishop	Mark	31	01	1896	Drunk on licensed premises	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mark Bishop of Priddy, labourer, with being drunk on licensed premises, namely The Crown Inn on 11 January. Police serjeant Knight had been called to The Crown Inn where he stated that he had found Mark Bishop reeling around drunkenly in the yard. Knight also thought that Mark Bishop's father was there and trying to help his son, eventually driving him away in a horse and trap with Mark Bishop falling onto the floor of the trap in a drunken state. However, James Bishop, Mark's father, asserted that he had left the inn much earlier and this was largely corroborated by other witnesses. James Bishop also asserted that he had taken his son-in-law in his trap and not Mark Bishop. George Brewer and James Blagdon also indicated that Mark Bishop had been drinking quietly until he had become involved in a quarrel with Charles Parker (see case 1896/016) and general opinion was that he was not drunk. The hearing was adjourned until Friday 14 February when, despite detailed testimony from a variety of witnesses and different interpretations of the events that took place, Bishop was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs (although the costs were shown as actually being £1.4s.6d); the sum of 10/- was recorded as paid.	1896/017
Bisgood	John	Bishop	Mark	31	01	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mark Bishop of Priddy, labourer, with using obscene language in the Market Place on 18 January. Mark Bishop pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs.	1896/018

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hudson	George	Bishop	Walter	31	01	1896	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	George Hudson of the Market Place, innkeeper, complained that on 18 January Walter Bishop who lived near Hunter's Lodge on Mendip, miner, had become noisy and disorderly when on Hudson's premises. Hudson had then requested that Bishop leave forthwith, but Bishop refused, thereby committing an offence against the Licensing Act. Witnesses summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution were - Thomas Harding of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, farmer - George Brewer c/o Mr Johnson of Broad Street and - James Baker of Southover, licensed hawker. Bishop pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs, although the costs alone were recorded as being at least 14/- or possibly 15/6d.	1896/019
Bisgood	John	Bedford Hammacott	Thomas Henry	31	01	1896	Affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Bedford of Priest Row and Henry Hammacott of Burcot Road, both described as labourers, with making an affray by the Palace Wall on 18 January, Bedford pleaded not guilty while Hammacott admitted the charge. Hammacott was fined 2/6d, while the case against Bedford was dismissed.	1896/020
Bisgood	John	Ellis	Thomas	31	01	1896	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Ellis of Tucker Street, fitter, with being drunk in Southover on 24 January. Although the summons was prepared it was then withdrawn since it appeared that Ellis was no longer resident in Tucker Street or had possibly never lived there, as his address was then given as No 15 Little Street, Reading.	1896/021
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1896/022

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Frederick Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at Wells Central Boys' School, reported that Frederick Vincent, aged 11, had made only 57 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 113 attendances. Joseph Vincent's wife appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned to 9 March when Mrs Vincent again attended. Edward Serel reported that Frederick Vincent had made 29 out of 37 attendances in the last 4 weeks. Joseph Vincent was discharged with a caution.	1896/022a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Bertie Vincent. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at Wells Central Infants School, reported that Bertie Vincent, aged 7, had made only 53 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 74 attendances. Joseph Vincent's wife appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned to 9 March when Mrs Vincent again appeared. Bertie Vincent's attendance was much improved and Joseph Vincent was discharged with a caution.	1896/022b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hawkins	John	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John Hawkins of Priest Row was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Alice Hawkins. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at Wells Central Girls' School, reported that Alice Hawkins had made only 38 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 74 attendances. Alice Hawkins was recorded as having passed standard III. John Hawkins appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned to 9 March when, although Edward Serel reported that Alice Hawkins' attendance was much improved, John Hawkins was fined 2/6d including costs.	1896/022c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Foot	Albert Henry	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Henry Foot of Silver Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Emily Foot. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at Wells Central Girls' School, reported that Emily Foot had made only 46 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 74 attendances. Emily Foot was recorded as having passed standard III. Albert Foot's wife appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned to 9 March. At the adjourned hearing Albert Foot appeared and was discharged since his daughter's attendance had markedly improved.	1896/022d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Foot	Albert Henry	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Henry Foot of Silver Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Lily Foot. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at Wells Central Girls' School, reported that Lily Foot had made only 47 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 74 attendances. Lily Foot was recorded as having passed standard I. Albert Foot's wife appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned to 9 March. At the adjourned hearing Albert Foot appeared and was discharged since his daughter's attendance had markedly improved.	1896/022e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Woolford	Emma	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Emma Woolford of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Augusta Woolford. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at Wells Central Girls' School, reported that Augusta Woolford had made only 47 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 74 attendances. Augusta Woolford was recorded as having passed standard II. Emma Woolford appeared at the hearing where she stated that one reason for her daughter's poor attendance was that the child did not have a pair of boots. The case was adjourned to 9 March when Edward Serel reported that Augusta Woolford's attendance was much improved. Emma Woolford was discharged with a caution.	1896/022f

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Jane Allen of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Edward Allen. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Edward Allen, aged 11, had made only 29 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 40 attendances. Edward Allen was recorded as having passed standard IV. Jane Allen appeared personally at the hearing and was fined 2/6d to be paid by 4pm.	1896/022g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Witcombe	Esther	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Esther Witcombe of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, William Witcombe. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that William Witcombe, aged 10, had made only 25 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 40 attendances. William Witcombe was recorded as having passed standard II. Esther Witcombe appeared personally at the hearing and was fined 2/6d to be paid by 4pm.	1896/022h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	Thomas	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Price of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Albert Price. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Albert Price, aged 8, had made only 29 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 40 attendances. Albert Price was recorded as having passed standard I. Thomas Price did not appear at the hearing and was fined 3/6d.	1896/022i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	Thomas	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Price of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Mary Ann Price. Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Mary Ann Price, aged 11, had only made 44 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 67 attendances. Mary Ann Price was recorded as having passed standard II. Thomas Price did not appear at the hearing and was fined 3/6d.	1896/022j

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Andow	George	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Andow of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Alice Andow. Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Alice Andow, aged 11, had only made 42 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 67 attendances. Alice Andow was recorded as having passed standard II. George Andow appeared at the hearing and the case was adjourned to 9 March when Edward Serel reported that Alice Andow's attendance since the case was adjourned had been very good. George Andow was discharged with a caution.	1896/022k
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Edith Edwards. Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Edith Edwards, aged 7, had made only 14 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 67 attendances. Edith Edwards was recorded as having partly achieved standard I. George Edwards' wife attended the hearing at which George Edwards was fined 2/6d to be paid by 4pm.	1896/022l
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Attwood	William	04	02	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Attwood of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Elizabeth Attwood. Louise C Sones, principal teacher at Wells Roman Catholic School, reported that Elizabeth Attwood, aged 10, had made only 32 attendances in the period to 31 January when the school was open for 60 attendances. Elizabeth Attwood was recorded as having passed standard II. William Attwood's wife attended the hearing and explained that her daughter's attendance had been significantly affected because Elizabeth had suffered from chilblains and influenza. William Attwood was fined 2/6d to be paid by 4pm..	1896/022m
Police		Davis	William	05	02	1896	Drunkenness	D	William Davis was charged with being drunk in High Street on 4 February. At the time of his arrest he had 21/2d in cash. He was found guilty and fined 2/6d including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. William Davis went to gaol.	1896/023

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Hawkins	John	06	02	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Hawkins of South Street, butcher, with using obscene language in High Street on 2 February. The documentation contains a transcript of the words that John Hawkins was alleged to have used. Hawkins appeared at the hearing, was found guilty and fined 2/6d including costs (although the costs alone were recorded as being 8/-).	1896/024
Upham	William	Cornelius	C	10	02	1896	Using obscene language Assault	Pr A	PC Upham saw Cornelius at around 3.30pm on 9 February in St Thomas Street where he was hawking flowers. At around 4pm Upham had seen him again, with around 20 youngsters by him. Cornelius had spoken to PC Upham and used bad language and Upham stated that there had been complaints of Cornelius using bad language around the moat. This charge was dismissed, but a separate charge of assaulting a police constable was upheld, resulting in a 14-day prison sentence with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: there is no indication in the minutes when and where the assault on the police officer had occurred - and also no certainty that this charge related to Cornelius.	1896/025
Justices		Various		10	02	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 February. Except for the case against C Cornelius (see case 1896/025) and the licence extension application from M Moore (see case 1896/027), all the cases heard are detailed in earlier entries and relevant information from the minutes incorporated.	1896/026
Moore	M			10	02	1896	Licence extension application	La	M Moore applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence for 11 February. This was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: this application is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 February (see case 1896/026).	1896/027
Police		James	Winifred	11	02	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	Winifred James, pedlar, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Queen Street on 10 February. On that day she had been moved on 5 or 6 times by the police and had previously been turned out of two lodging houses for bad conduct. James stated that her home was South Brent, she had two children in Bristol but did not know where her husband was. She was discharged on the promise that she would leave Wells at once.	1896/028

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Walter	Silas	25	02	1896	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Silas Walter of Portway, haulier, with wilfully obstructing the highway in Tucker Street on 21 February by parking a horse and waggon there. Walter was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs.	1896/029
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		25	02	1896	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, rate collector for the City of Wells, complained that various individuals had failed to pay the general district rate set on 7 October 1895. The names of the individuals concerned and the amounts outstanding are shown in the succeeding entries.	1896/030
Jenkins	William Henry	Sandy	Sophia	25	02	1896	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Sophia Sandy of South Street was shown as owing 17/11d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.0s.5d.	1896/030a
Jenkins	William Henry	Green	John	25	02	1896	Non-payment of general district rate	N	John Green of Sadler Street was shown as owing 16/3d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 18/9d.	1896/030b
Jenkins	William Henry	Trenchard	John	25	02	1896	Non-payment of general district rate	N	John Trenchard of Ash Lane was shown as owing 19/2d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.1s.8d.	1896/030c
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	25	02	1896	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Henry Oxley of Priest Row was shown as owing 10/9d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 13/3d.	1896/030d
Jenkins	William Henry	Stanton	William	25	02	1896	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins complained that William Stanton of St Thomas Terrace in St Thomas Street had failed to pay the general district rate levied on 7 October 1895. The amount outstanding was 18/4d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.0s.10d. At the hearing on 9 March where Stanton did not appear, Jenkins complained that Stanton had made several promises to pay but had failed to do so. The justices ordered Stanton to clear the outstanding balance forthwith, otherwise a distress warrant would be issued at a cost of 3/6d bringing the total debt to £1.4s.4d. An undated note from William Stanton (presumed to be after 9 March) includes a payment of 10/- towards clearing the debt and a promise to pay the rest on Saturday.	1896/030e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		03	03	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1896/031

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	03	03	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Perry of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Lizzie Perry. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Wells Central Girls' School reported that Lizzie Perry, aged 9, had made no attendances in the 3 months ending 31 January when the school had been open for 113 attendances. Lizzie Perry was recorded as having passed standard I. At the hearing on 9 March James Perry's wife attended and the case against James Perry was dismissed.	1896/031a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	03	03	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane White. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at Wells Central Girls' School, reported that Jane White, aged 10, had made only 36 attendances in the 3 months to 31 January when the school had been open for 113 attendances. Jane White was also recorded as having achieved only 10 attendances out of 30 in the last three weeks. Jane White was noted as having passed standard I. At the hearing on 9 March Mrs White attended and Joseph White was fined 2/6d including costs, to be paid by 4pm.	1896/031b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	03	03	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Kate White. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at Wells Central Infants' School, reported that Kate White, aged 8, had made only 36 attendances in the 3 months to 31 January when the school had been open for 114 attendances. Kate White was not recorded as having passed any standard. At the hearing on 9 March Mrs White attended and Joseph White was fined 2/6d including costs, to be paid by 4pm.	1896/031c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Sheppard	Robert	03	03	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Robert Sheppard of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, William Sheppard. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that William, aged 12, had made only 23 attendances in the period to 28 February when the school was open for 38 attendances. William Sheppard was noted as having passed standard IV. At the hearing on 9 March Robert Sheppard's wife attended and the case was adjourned until 16 April. At that hearing the case against Robert Sheppard was dismissed.	1896/031d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	03	03	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Jane Allen of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Elizabeth Allen. Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Elizabeth Allen, aged 8, had made only 43 attendances in the period to 29 February when the school was open for 78 attendances. Elizabeth Allen was noted as having passed standard I. At the hearing on 9 March Jane Allen attended and was fined 2/6d including costs, to be paid by 4pm.	1896/031e
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Chamberlain	John	09	03	1896	Maintenance order	Mo	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Wells Union, had secured a maintenance order against John Chamberlain in 1892 (see case 1892/074) that required him to contribute 2/6d per week to support his children while they were in the Wells Union. Chamberlain was failing to comply with this order because his earnings no longer enabled him to contribute at this level, although he had paid regularly until September 1895. The justices determined that Chamberlain's contribution should be reduced to 1/6d per week with immediate effect. Note: the only information related to this case appears in the minutes of the petty sessions of 9 March (see case 1896/033).	1896/032
Justices		Various		09	03	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 9 March. With the exception of the case against John Chamberlain (see case 1896/032) all the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated into those entries.	1896/033

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Upham	William	Kirby	George	10	03	1896	Theft	T	PC Upham charged George Kirby with the theft of a number of articles from the home of Mr C Tudway in The Liberty on 9 March. The articles comprised: silver pen tray, silver penholder, silver pencil, silver-plated candlestick, telescope, small fancy bowl and china ornament. Martha Jane Taylor, underparlour maid, had been carrying out housekeeping duties in the drawing room when she spotted Kirby and challenged him. After some discussion he ran out of the house and made off towards Tor Street. Martha Jane Taylor ran after him and eventually obtained assistance from some young men to stop Kirby and hold him until the police arrived. PC Upham found most of the stolen articles on the prisoner. Kirby was remanded in custody until Saturday 14 March. In addition to PC Upham and Martha Jane Taylor, the following individuals were called as witnesses for the hearing: George Williams Tyte of Sadler Street, Henry Thomas Wickham of Tor Street and William Savage of Bath Road in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert. At the hearing the justices referred the case to the next General Quarter Sessions at Wells.	
Upham	William	Francis Sweet Wooley	Albert Edward Mary Ann	28	03	1896	Sleeping in outhouse	V	PC Upham found Albert Edward Francis, Mary Sweet and Ann Wooley sleeping in an outhouse in Milton Lane. In his view they were unable to offer a viable means of subsistence, since Francis had 1/2d, Mary Sweet 1d and Ann Wooley 3d at the time of their arrest. Francis was fined 5/- which was recorded as paid, but both Mary Sweet and Ann Wooley were sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1896/035
Furze	John	York	James	30	03	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant John Furze charged James York with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 28 March. Furze was on duty when he heard a disturbance near The Queen's Head. When he attempted to intervene York used bad language and became violent so that it became necessary to put him in handcuffs. York was fined 5/- including costs.	1896/036

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Curtis	Albert John	Parker Parker	George Elizabeth	31	03	1896	Assault	A	<p>Albert John Curtis of No 16 Priest Row, tinplate worker, complained that he had been assaulted by both George Parker of Priest Row and his wife, Elizabeth Parker, on 31 March. George and Elizabeth Parker pleaded not guilty to the charge.</p> <p>The dispute arose when Curtis found a set of tools apparently belonging to the Parkers in his garden. He demanded that Elizabeth Parker remove them but she refused and supposedly threatened him if he took them away. George Parker then appeared, holding a shovel and apparently threatening Curtis. Then, when Curtis went off to work, George Parker confronted him on the street and struck him on the chest with a hammer (although apparently with no great force). Elizabeth Curtis, wife of Albert Curtis, saw the incident in the garden from her window and claimed that Elizabeth Parker had struck her husband in the eye. The justices dismissed the case and ordered that Albert Curtis and the two Parkers should each pay 4/- towards the cost of the case. In addition each of the three was to be bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace, particularly towards each other, for the next 6 months.</p>	1896/037
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Ball	Edwin	31	03	1896	Maintenance order	Mo	<p>Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Wells Union, appealed on 31 March for a maintenance order to be awarded against Edwin Ball of St Thomas Street, haulier, to assist in the support of his mother, Frances Ball, who was poor and unable to support herself and was now chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union. On 16 April, on considering the means available to Edwin Ball, the justices determined that he should contribute the sum of 2/- per week beginning with a payment on 23 April and continuing for so long as his mother remained poor and unable to support herself. In addition, the justices also ruled that Edwin Ball should pay the sum of 9/6d to cover the costs of this case.</p>	1896/038
Police		Gallinger	John	02	04	1896	Drunkenness	D	<p>John Gallinger was charged with being drunk in High Street on 1 April. He pleaded guilty to the charge but the justices dismissed the case against him.</p>	1896/039

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Furze	John	Baker	Clara	06	04	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Furze charged Clara Baker with being drunk and disorderly in an unspecified location on an unspecified (but presumably recent) date. She pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 2/6d or, if in default, to spend 7 days in prison. Clara Baker went to prison. Note: it is possible that the surname could be intended as Baller.	1896/040
Upham	William	Jenkins	John	07	04	1896	Breaking and entering	Be	John Jenkins was charged with breaking and entering the dwelling house of Walter Spiller in Keward on the night of 4 April or the morning of 5 April and with stealing from it two coats, 2 pairs of stockings and 3 pocket books with a value of £1. Jenkins was arrested by PC Upham on 5 April with the stolen goods in his possession. Jenkins was remanded until Friday 10 April and at that hearing he was bailed on a surety of £10 to stand trial at the next assizes. In addition to police serjeant Knight and PC Upham, witnesses in the case were listed as: - Walter Spiller of Keward, railway porter - Mary Ann Spiller, wife of Walter Spiller - Charles Hole of Keward, labourer - Samuel Hawkins of Coxley, platelayer.	1896/041
Bisgood	John	Taylor	Isaac	13	04	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Isaac Taylor of St Thomas Street, mason, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 6 April when PC Upham saw him falling over because he was so drunk. Isaac Taylor pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d plus costs of 5/6d, all to be paid by Saturday.	1896/042
Justices		Various		16	04	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 16 April. All the cases heard are covered in earlier entries and the appropriate details from the minutes are incorporated in those entries.	1896/043
Justices		Various		17	04	1896	List of arrears	*	List of petty sessions fines and/or costs unpaid and still outstanding. The entries are in date sequence with the most recent debts shown first and those outstanding the longest at the end of the list.	1896/044
Walker	T W			27	04	1896	Licence extension application	La	T W Walker applied for a one-hour extension of his alcohol licence on 29 April to host a Fire Brigade dinner. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1896/045

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Furze	John	Hicks	Henry	27	04	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant Furze charged Henry Hicks with using obscene language in St Cuthbert Street on 25 April. Furze arrested Hicks between Queen Street and The Mermaid Inn at around 9.30pm. Hicks had already been turned out of The Mermaid at about 4pm and was using very bad language in the street with many people around. Hicks pleaded guilty to the offence, but was discharged on the basis that he had been punished by being locked up since Saturday evening.	1896/046
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Perry	James	27	04	1896	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Wells Union, complained that James Perry had deserted his wife and children for the 4th time on 5 March 1896, leaving them chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union. Perry's wife, Charlotte, and his children, James, Frederick, Elizabeth, Ethel, Albert, Rose, Harry and Margaret were still in the same situation. By June Perry had been apprehended as a result of work by police serjeant Knight. Perry had effectively given clues as to his whereabouts by writing to his wife some 7 or 8 weeks earlier and giving an address for a reply, although when questioned by the police Perry's wife stated that she did not know where he might be. At a hearing on 22 June Perry was described as a rogue and a vagabond and was found guilty on a charge of vagrancy. He was sentenced to 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1896/047

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Meades	William	Barr Barr Barr	Henry Harriett William Harry	04	05	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Meades encountered the Barr family at around 4.45pm on 2 May in Tucker Street where they were fighting with another man (John Cook, see case 1896/051). A crowd of around 100 people had gathered and all the combatants were using disgusting language. PC Meades stopped the fighting and tried to persuade them to go home, but the Barrs refused to go. With the help of Frederick Dowling of No 23 St Cuthbert Street, PC Meades was able to get hold of both Henry Barr and the young William Harry Barr. The latter went quietly to the police station with Frederick Dowling. However, when PC Meades put handcuffs on Henry Barr, Harriett Barr became violent and abusive, and tried to intervene by wrapping her legs around the officer, bringing them all to the ground. PC Upham arrived and with his help they commandeered a passing cart and used it to get Henry and Harriett Barr to the police station. All three Barrs were considered to be extremely drunk. Henry Barr and William Harry Barr were each fined 2/6d while Harriett Barr was fined 5/-; all three defendants were also required to pay 3/4d each towards the costs of the case.	1896/048
Meades	William	Barr	Henry	04	05	1896	Assault on police officer	A	In addition to being arrested for being drunk and disorderly (see case 1896/048), Henry Barr was also charged with assaulting a police officer. PC Meades testified that Henry Barr had tried to kick him in the head when he had been put in the cart and made several more attempts subsequently to kick him in the back. At the police station he attempted to kick down the cell door until his boots were removed. Barr was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs.	1896/049
Police		Bishop	Mark	04	05	1896	Drunkenness	D	Mark Bishop was charged with being drunk in New Street at 10pm on 2 May. He was found to be too helpless to go home and was arrested. Bishop was fined 5/- plus costs of 3/6d. The sum of 8/6d was recorded as paid.	1896/050

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Cook	John	07	05	1896	Affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Cook of Henton in the parish of Wookey, calf dealer, with making an affray in Tucker Street on 2 May. Cook was fighting with Henry Barr and had knocked him down which prompted Barr's two companions to assist him (see case 1896/048). Cook claimed that he was acting in self-defence, but PC Meades had observed that the fight had been going for some time and had attracted a large crowd. Cook was fined 2/6d plus costs of 6/-; the sum of 8/6d was recorded as paid.	1896/051
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1896/052
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Stevens	Alfred John	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at Wells Central Girls' School, reported that Emily Stevens, aged 10, had made only 15 attendances in the period to 30 April when the school was open for 34 attendances. Emily Stevens was recorded as having passed standard II. Alfred John Stevens of Southover, Emily's father, attended the hearing and was fined 1/-.	1896/052a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Stevens	Alfred John	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at Wells Central Girls' School, reported that Anne Stevens, aged 9, had made only 20 attendances in the period to 30 April when the school was open for 34 attendances. Anne Stevens was recorded as having passed standard II. Alfred John Stevens of Southover, Anne's father, attended the hearing and was fined 1/-.	1896/052b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at Wells Central Girls' School, reported that Jane White, aged 10, had made only 25 attendances in the period to 30 April when the school was open for 34 attendances. Jane White was recorded as having passed standard I. Joseph White of South Street, Jane's father, was ill and was represented by his wife. He was fined 2/6d and was given 14 days within which to pay this fine and the arrears of 5/- which were outstanding from previous fines.	1896/052c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Attwood	William	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Louise C Stones, principal teacher at Wells Roman Catholic School, reported that Bessie Attwood, aged 9, had made only 43 attendances in the period to 24 April when the school was open for 70 attendances. Bessie Attwood was recorded as having passed standard I. William Attwood of St Thomas Street, Bessie's father, was represented at the hearing by his wife. He was fined 2/6d.	1896/052d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Snooks	Ann	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Albert Snooks, aged 12, had made only 55 attendances in the period to 30 April when the school was open for 82 attendances. Albert Snooks was recorded as having passed standard IV. Ann Snooks of St Thomas Street, Albert's mother, attended the hearing and was fined 1/3d in recognition of the fact that she had to support her 4 children on her own.	1896/052e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Snooks	Ann	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that George Snooks, aged 11, had made only 66 attendances in the period to 30 April when the school was open for 82 attendances. George Snooks was recorded as having passed standard III. Ann Snooks of St Thomas Street, George's mother, attended the hearing and was fined 1/3d in recognition of the fact that she had to support her 4 children on her own.	1896/052f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Witcombe	Esther	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that William Witcombe, aged 11, had made only 60 attendances in the period to 30 April when the school was open for 82 attendances. William Witcombe was recorded as having passed standard II. Esther Witcombe of St Thomas Street, William's mother, attended the hearing and was fined 2/6d.	1896/052g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Willie Allen, aged 10, had made only 62 attendances in the period to 30 April when the school was open for 82 attendances. Willie Allen was recorded as having passed standard I. Jane Allen of St Thomas Street, Willie's mother, attended the hearing and was fined a total of 2/6d (see also cases 1895/052i and 1895/052j). She was given 14 days within which to pay this sum and the outstanding arrears from previous fines.	1896/052h

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Fred Allen, aged 8, had made only 58 attendances in the period to 30 April when the school was open for 82 attendances. Fred Allen was recorded as having passed standard I. Jane Allen of St Thomas Street, Fred's mother, attended the hearing and was fined. For details of the fine, see case 1895/052h.	1896/05i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	07	05	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that Elizabeth Allen, aged 7, had made only 61 attendances in the period to 30 April when the school was open for 113 attendances. Elizabeth Allen was recorded as having passed standard I. Jane Allen of St Thomas Street, Fred's mother, attended the hearing and was fined. For details of the fine, see case 1895/052h.	1896/052j
Justices		Various		11	05	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	<p>Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 May.</p> <p>There were 5 applications for temporary transfers of alcohol licences or extensions of alcohol licences but, with one exception, the venue affected was not identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah Ann Norman applied for a temporary transfer which was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d - Edward Dunn applied for a temporary transfer of The Mitre from Ackland which was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d - Cox applied for a one hour extension for 3 nights in order to support the running of a show; this was granted - Bennett applied for a one-hour extension on 3 days for an exhibition; the application was granted - Walker applied for a one-hour extension which was granted <p>Note: the applications for licence extensions for the Somerset Agricultural Show (see case 1896/054) indicate that Cox was at The Star Inn, Bennett at The White Hart and Walker at The Sun Inn</p>	1896/053

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Various				11	05	1896	Licence extension application	La	<p>Operators of licensed premises applied for extensions of their alcohol licences for the dates of 13, 14 and 15 May in order to take advantage of the Somerset Agricultural Show which was taking place on those dates. In total 16 applications were granted, each requiring a apyment of 2/6d. The individuals applying for the licence extensions were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alfred Gould of The City Arms - Harriett Coles of The King's Head - William Tripp of The Cheddar Valley Inn - William E Dann of The Red Ox - Emily Gibbons of The Foresters' Arms - William Moor of The Golden Heart - Charles Hutchings of The Hearts of Oak - Timothy Edward Dunn of The Mitre Hotel - Sampson Grist of The Nag's Head - James Bendall of The Queen's Head - W J Bennett of The White Hart - ?? George of The Swan - ?? Walker of The Sun Inn - ?? Cox of The Star <p>In addition, extensions were applied for The Mermaid Inn and The Coffee Tavern, but the names of the individual licence holders were not shown.</p>	1896/054
Paul	James Robert	Sage	Frank	11	05	1896	Assault	A	<p>James Robert Paul of Morgan's Court, shoemaker, complained that he had been assaulted in his own home by Frank Sage on 11 May. At the petty sessions sitting on 12 May (see also case 1896/057) Paul stated that he had been working at home when Sage had come in and, after a brief exchange of words, grabbed Paul by the hair and started to pull it. Paul's daughter-in-law and Sage's wife had taken Sage home. Not long afterwards Sage had returned holding a stick and challenged Paul to a game of single sticks. Paul had told him to go away, but Sage then started striking him with the stick, hitting him on the thumb, arm and forehead. before the stick broke. Paul asked that Sage be bound over to keep the peace. Sage pleaded guilty to a charge of assault and was fined 5/- including costs.</p>	1896/055

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Plaster	John	12	05	1896	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight found John Plaster in the Market Place on 11 May where he was sitting down with a crowd of people around him. Plaster stayed there for around 30 minutes but when he attempted to move off he fell down and proved incapable of standing up. He smelt of drink and was apparently very drunk, but was quiet and inoffensive. The case against Plaster was dismissed. Note: this case is only documented in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 May (see case 1896/057).	1896/056
Justices		Various		12	05	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 May. These minutes only cover the cases against Frank Sage (see case 1896/055) and John Plaster (see case 1896/056).	1896/057
Police		Atchinson	Alfred	14	05	1896	Drunkenness	D	Alfred Atchinson was charged with being drunk in High Street on 13 May. The arresting officer stated that the defendant was helplessly drunk, but was civil and was believed to have given his correct name. Atchinson was fined 2/6d including costs. Note: it is possible that the surname may be 'Hutchinson'.	1896/058
Police		Wall	Alfred	16	05	1896	Drunkenness	D	Alfred Wall of Street, whose father was a haulier, was charged with being drunk on the Glastonbury Road on 15 May. At around 10.30pm he was found to be helplessly drunk at the Somerset & Dorset Railway Station and had to be taken to the police station. Wall was fined 5/- including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1896/059
Meades	William	Fear	Jesse	26	05	1896	Breach of the peace	Dp	Jesse Fear of No 28 Union Street, labourer, was charged with causing a breach of the peace in Broad Street on 25 May. At around 6pm PC Meades found Fear having an argument with his wife and making a good deal of noise. The couple were said to have been married for a fortnight. Fear was discharged by the justices.	1896/060

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Isaacs	William	Hatcher	Henry	26	05	1896	Assault	A	William Isaacs, hawker, complained that he had been assaulted in Broad Street by Henry Hatcher on 26 May. Isaacs brought the complaint on the same day and Hatcher was remanded in custody until Thursday 28 May. At the hearing on that date Isaacs claimed that he had been walking up the street when Hatcher had come out of a house and struck him in the face with his fist. Isaacs was knocked down and sustained a cut head which was dressed by the police officer who picked him up. Isaacs stated that he had not spoken to Hatcher although he did recognise him as he had seen him around town. Adolphus Greenham testified that he had seen the incident when he had been filling up the water cart at the top of Broad Street. His view of the incident was that both men had come up High Street, stopped for around half a minute, and then exchanged insults before Hatcher had hit Isaacs against the wheel of the water cart. Both parties appeared to have been drinking. Hatcher was fined 10/- including costs; this sum was recorded as paid. Note: in the initial case documents the plaintiff is referred to as Matthew Isaacs, but in the notes of the hearing on 28 May the name is given as William Isaacs.	1896/061
Bisgood	John	Griffin	Alfred	30	05	1896	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Alfred Griffin of St Thomas Street, bus driver, with obstructing the highway in Sadler Street by leaving a horse and carriage there. The case was subsequently withdrawn and did not proceed to a hearing.	1896/062
Barnard	Charles	Morgan	Mary	03	06	1896	Eviction notice	Ev	On 18 May Charles Barnard issued to Mary Morgan a notice to quit the cottage and premises that she was renting from him in Mill Lane at 2/8d per week. The tenancy was held on a week to week basis and she was asked to quit the property by 25 May. She did not comply and a further notice was issued on 25 May requesting her to leave the property by 1 June. When this did not occur, Charles Barnard instituted legal proceedings on 3 June to secure an eviction by notifying Mary Morgan that he would seek to obtain an eviction order at the next petty sessions sitting on 15 June. At that hearing Barnard was granted possession of the property in 21 days.	1896/063

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Hayman	John	03	06	1896	Not in control of horse and cab	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Hayman of No 26 Langton Street, Cathay in Bristol, cab driver, with not being in a position to control the movement and direction of the horse that was drawing his carriage as they proceeded down Sadler Street on 12 May. Sampson Grist of Sadler Street was called to provide evidence for the prosecution. Grist testified that he had heard the horse coming down the street and saw it put a foot in the gutter and fall over. He had then helped the horse up, but there was no-one around in charge of it. Two or three minutes later Hayman arrived. According to evidence given by Hayman to PC Meades, Hayman claimed that he and the carriage had been struck by stones thrown at him and he had needed to deal with the problem. Hayman's coat had a good deal of dust on it, but he bore no marks of injuries. PC Meades noted that Hayman did not appear to have been drinking and drove away quite competently when he was back in charge. The case against Hayman was dismissed.	1896/064
Bisgood	John	Loxton	Sarah Ann	04	06	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Sarah Ann Loxton of South Street, wife of William Loxton, with using obscene language in South Street on 16 May. Loxton pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1896/065
Bisgood	John	Loxton	Sarah Ann	04	06	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Sarah Ann Loxton of South Street, wife of William Loxton, with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 18 May. Walter Bedford of South Street was called to give evidence for the prosecution and testified that at about 8.45pm one of Sarah Ann Loxton's children had fallen and sustained a cut head. The child was taken away for treatment and Sarah Ann Loxton was very upset. Bedford stated that she was very much under the influence of drink. Sarah Ann Loxton pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs, to be paid that evening. Note: the minutes of the petty sessions sitting are particularly sparse when describing this case and therefore the interpretation of the testimony may not be entirely correct.	1896/066

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Wickham	Ernest	04	06	1896	Failure to alert pedestrian when overtaking on a bicycle	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ernest Wickham of St Thomas Street with failing to sound a bell or other audible alarm on his bicycle when overtaking a pedestrian named Joseph Free in Sadler Street on 23 May. Wickham pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1896/067
Bisgood	John	Summers	Mary	04	06	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mary Summers of Mill Lane with using obscene language in Sadler Street on 29 May at around 3.20pm. Mary Summers pleaded not guilty. PC Roach on duty in New Street heard someone using bad language in Sadler Street. He met Mary Summers who continued cursing up New Street where she was cautioned because there were lots of people around that were offended by her language. Mary Summers was also charged with the same offence on 5 June (see case 1896/071)	1896/068
Damarel	Samuel	Woodburn Stiles	Walter Percy	04	06	1896	Wilful damage	Wd	Samuel Damarel, caretaker at Wells recreation ground, complained that Walter Woodburn and Percy Stiles, both of Town Hall Buildings, had wilfully damaged a tree at the recreation ground on 29 May by pulling off branches. Both defendants pleaded not guilty to the charge. Damarel claimed that both had been up in the tree and had been deliberately breaking off branches. The case against Stiles was dismissed, but Woodburn was required to pay 1/-; this sum was recorded as paid. Note: the surname of the plaintiff is normally given as 'Damerel', but in this instance it is shown as 'Damarel'.	1896/069
Meades	William	Loxton	Sarah Ann	08	06	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	Sarah Ann Loxton was charged with using obscene language in South Street on 6 June. PC Meades arrested her at around 10.30pm when she was in the street shouting loudly, using disgraceful language and surrounded by a crowd of about 30 people. She was taken to the police station and locked up. Sarah Ann Loxton pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1896/070

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Summers	Mary	09	06	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mary Summers of Mill Lane with using obscene language in Mill Lane on 5 June. Samuel Farley of Mill Lane was called to give evidence for the prosecution and he testified that he had heard her using bad language on her own doorstep. Mary Summers pleaded not guilty. She had also been charged with a similar offence on 29 May (see case 1896/068) and the justices heard both cases at the same time. The costs of the two cases came to 19/- (or 9/6d for each case). It is not clear whether Mary Summers could not or would not pay these costs, but she went to prison for 14 days.	1896/071
Morton	R			11	06	1896	Licence transfer application	La	R Morton applied for a transfer of the alcohol licence granted to Timothy Edward Dunn. The transfer was granted on payment of the fee of 30/-. Note: it is not clear from the note whether the transfer was requested by Morton or Dunn. However, since on 11 May Dunn was recorded as the operator of The Mitre Hotel (see case 1896/054), the assumption is that Morton was asking for the licence to be transferred to him. Note: there is a further entry on the same page which simply gives the name Sarah Ann Norman and indicates that a transfer was granted on payment of the fee of 30/- but no further information is provided.	1896/072
Justices		Various		15	06	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 15 June. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated.	1896/073

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Pedwell	Frank	19	06	1896	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Wells Union, complained that Frank Pedwell of Street had run away and deserted his wife and 5 children, all aged under 16. As a result they had all become chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union with effect from 13 May 1895 and were still in that position now. Pedwell's wife, Constance, was aged 32, while the children were Gwendoline (12), Winifred (10), Alice (6), Dorothy (2) and Clarice Ivy (6 months). Note: the date on which Pedwell's wife and children became chargeable to the Common Fund is clearly shown as 13 May 1895 but it is possible that the year should have been shown as 1896. In 1895 (see case 1895/069) Pedwell apparently deserted his family (and at that time there were only 4 children) and they became chargeable to the Common Fund with effect from 23 April. Pedwell was then arrested in October 1895.	1896/074
Bisgood	John	Webb	John	22	06	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Webb of Yarley in the parish of Wookey with using obscene language in High Street on 15 June. Police serjeant Knight had seen Webb's trap parked in High Street beside Higgins' shop and had noticed that the old cob between the shafts had badly damaged knees which had been rubbed with black grease. When Webb came out of the shop, Knight advised him not to work the horse any further. Webb had responded with a volley of abuse and had threatened the officer. Webb was summoned to appear at the petty sessions sitting on 13 July, but wrote to the justices on 11 July saying that he would be unable to attend because his wife was in hospital and he needed to look after the family. At the hearing on 13 July (see case 1896/084) Charles Hutchins of The Hearts of Oak confirmed the bad language that had been used by Webb and communicated to the court by police serjeant Knight. Webb himself did not appear and a warrant for his arrest was issued with the case being adjourned until he appeared. With Webb present, the case was heard the following day. Webb pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 15/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. Note: Webb was noted as being the son-in-law of Gipsy Bob (at least that appears to be the name although the last few characters of the name are unclear).	1896/075

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Catt	A E			24	06	1896	Licence transfer application	La	A E Catt applied for a temporary transfer of his alcohol licence for The Fountain Inn to Frank Parrott of Queen Camel. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1896/076
Hudson	George			24	06	1896	Licence transfer application	La	George Hudson applied for a temporary transfer of his alcohol licence for The Crown Inn to Stanley Lyne Welchman. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1896/077
Sheppard	Richard	Oxley	Henry	24	06	1896	Eviction notice	Ev	Francis Osborn Oates Chubb, acting as an agent for Richard Sheppard and others, the owners of a plot of land known as 'Mermaid Ground', issued a notification to Henry Oxley of Priest Row that they intended to apply to recover possession of this land and would be issuing an ejectment request to the justices on 3 July. The plot of land consisted of an orchard and garden and occupied around one acre on the north side of Tucker Street. Oxley was renting the land on a yearly lease at £20 per annum and the lease had most recently been renewed on 24 April last. Oxley had so far refused to return possession of this holding. At the hearing on 3 July Chubb reported that he had just visited the orchard and Oxley had still got locks on the gates. The justices granted Sheppard possession of the property in 22 days.	1896/078
Bisgood	John	Church	Sarah	27	06	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Sarah Church of Chewton Mendip with using obscene language in the Market Place on 22 June. The hearing was initially scheduled for 13 July but Sarah Church claimed that she was ill and sent her son instead. The hearing was postponed until 10 August and then adjourned to 13 August when Sarah Church appeared. She pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1896/079

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Coles	Harriett	Urch	James Newman	04	07	1896	Obtaining accommodation on false pretences	Fr	<p>Harriett Coles complained that James Newman Urch had obtained board and lodging from her at The King's Head Inn to a value of 3/8d on false pretences in a deliberate attempt to defraud her of that money. Urch had stayed overnight on 3 July but was brought before the justices on 4 July for refusing to pay his bill. He was then remanded in custody until a hearing before the justices on Tuesday 7 July. At the hearing Harriett Coles testified that Urch had come to her inn claiming to have been recommended by Mr Jefford of Sadler Street, confectioner. He produced as bona fides bills from Mr Jefford and The Evercreech Hotel. He was given supper, including sending out for a special order of sardines, a room for the night and breakfast the next morning. He was also supplied with headed notepaper and envelopes at his request and he asked that a note be delivered to Alfred George Russ at the Wells Union. Harriett Coles refused to fulfil that request and presented Urch with a bill for 3/8d which he refused to pay. She then summoned police serjeant Knight and Urch was eventually charged with obtaining accommodation on false pretences with the intent to defraud. Robert Palmer Jefford testified that Urch had spent the previous Monday night at his house and had paid his bill of 2/9d in two separate instalments. He also noted that Urch had returned and had asked to stay again at Jefford's but the rooms were already let. Jefford then stated that he had made no mention of The King's Head Inn and had not recommended anywhere that Urch should go. Police serjeant Knight noted that Urch had become very excited and abusive when Knight had been called out by Harriett Coles. He also stated that Urch had been searched at the police station and, although he had a purse, there was no money in it whatsoever. In addition, Knight testified that he knew Urch because Urch had previously been employed as a porter at the Wells Union and prior to that he had been a pauper inmate at the workhouse. The case against Urch was dismissed by the justices.</p>	1896/080

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Plaster	John	06	07	1896	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight charged John Plaster with being drunk in the Market Place on 4 July. When he was arrested at around 11pm near the Bishop's Eye, Plaster was so drunk that he was unable to stand. Plaster pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1896/081
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Various		08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries. Hearings for some of these cases were held at the petty sessions sitting of 13 July (see case 1896/084 for minutes) or 10 August (see case 1896/101), but others were delayed until 13 October (see case 1896/105).	1896/082
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Pearce	Henry	08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Pearce of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Henry Pearce the younger. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Henry Pearce the younger, aged 12, had made only 23 attendances in the period to 3 July in which the school was open for 67 attendances. Henry Pearce the younger was noted as working towards standard IV. Henry Pearce's wife attended the hearing and her husband was fined 5/- to be paid by Saturday.	1896/082a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Stevens	Alfred John	08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred John Stevens of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Annie Stevens. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Annie Stevens, aged 10, had made only 45 attendances in the period to 30 June in which the school was open for 65 attendances. Annie Stevens was noted as having passed standard III. The case was initially adjourned for one month until August, but was then adjourned for a further two months. At the hearing on 13 October it was reported that Annie Stevens was attending school satisfactorily and the case against Alfred John Stevens was dismissed.	1896/082b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Stevens	Alfred John	08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred John Stevens of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Emily Stevens. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Emily Stevens, aged 11, had made only 42 attendances in the period to 30 June in which the school was open for 65 attendances. Emily Stevens was noted as having passed standard III. The case was initially adjourned for one month until August, but was then adjourned for a further two months. At the hearing on 13 October a medical certificate for Emily Stevens was provided and the case against Alfred John Stevens was dismissed.	1896/082c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Chalker	Emily	08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Emily Chalker of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Ellen Chalker. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at the Central Infants' School, reported that Ellen Chalker, aged 6, had made only 43 attendances in the period to 30 June in which the school was open for 67 attendances. Emily Chalker attended the hearing on 10 August when the hearing was adjourned for a further two months. At the hearing on 13 October Ellen Chalker was reported to be attending school satisfactorily and the case against Emily Chalker was dismissed.	1896/082d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Price	Thomas	08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Price of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Albert Price. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Albert Price had made only 44 attendances in the period to 3 July when the school was open for 72 attendances. Albert Price was recorded as having passed standard I. Thomas Price's wife attended the hearing where her husband was fined 2/6d to be paid on that day.	1896/082e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Foot	Albert Henry	08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Henry Foot of Silver Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Emily Foot. Elizabeth Hickling, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Emily Foot, aged 10, had made only 36 attendances in the period to 30 June when the school was open for 65 attendances. Emily Foot was recorded as having passed standard IV. Foot's wife appeared at the hearing where her husband was fined 2/6d and was required to produce a medical certificate with respect to his daughter's condition.	1896/082f

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, William Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that William Vincent, aged 10, had made only 44 attendances in the period ending 2 July when the school was open for 65 attendances. William Vincent was noted as working towards standard II. Vincent's wife attended the hearing where her husband was fined 2/6d to be paid on that day.	1896/082g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Frederick Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Frederick Vincent, aged 12, had made only 48 attendances in the period ending 2 July when the school was open for 65 attendances. Frederick Vincent was noted as working towards standard III. Vincent's wife attended the hearing where her husband was fined 2/6d to be paid on that day.	1896/082h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Western	Harry	08	07	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Harry Western of Tucker Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Arthur Western. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Arthur Western, aged 10, had made only 44 attendances in the period to 2 July when the school was open for 65 attendances. Arthur Western was noted as working towards standard III. Western's wife attended the hearing and Arthur Western was brought to court. He was ordered to attend Wells Central School every day until the next school holidays. Arthur promised that he would attend school as instructed. Note: the date on the summons for this case is given as 8 June but is probably in error and ought to have been 8 July.	1896/082i

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Hatcher	Mark	09	07	1896	Drunken in charge of a horse and carriage	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mark Hatcher of Garston Street in Shepton Mallet with being drunk in charge of a horse and carriage in Market Street on 6 July. PC Upham had seen Hatcher at around 11.20pm in Market Street. Hatcher was standing by his trap, apparently agitated and panicking about one of the shafts being broken when it was actually perfectly sound. Upham determined that Hatcher was not in a fit state to drive home and when Hatcher set off, Upham took hold of the reins and stopped the pony. Police sergeant Knight was called and asked Hatcher to get out of the trap. He was unsteady on his feet and staggered about. Knight would not allow him to drive and insisted that Hatcher's friend take the reins. Hatcher was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1896/083
Justices		Various		13	07	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 July. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes included in those entries.	1896/084

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Knight	James	Price	Jane	20	07	1896	Ill-treatment of child	It	<p>James Knight of Town Hall Buildings, police serjeant, complained that Jane Price of South Street, wife of Thomas Price, labourer, was responsible for the ill-treatment of her son, Frank Price, aged about 6. Alfred Gavin of No 9 Silver Street, William Lemon of No 17 Southover, and Alice Hawkins and Emily Bown of Nos 10 and 9 South Street respectively, were all called to give evidence for the prosecution.</p> <p>At the hearing on 24 July (see case 1896/093 for detailed testimony) Alfred Gavin stated that at around 11.05pm on Saturday 18 July he had heard a child crying bitterly and then screaming. He was with William Lemon of Southover and they traced the noise to Price's house, found the door to be ajar and went in. They saw Jane Price strike her son around the head and back with the buckle end of a leather strap. Gavin got hold of the strap and took it from Jane Price. William Lemon confirmed Gavin's account and, when they got outside with the strap, police serjeant Knight was just arriving. Emily Bown, wife of George Bown, testified that she had lived next door to Jane Price for around a year. She indicated that she often heard the child crying and on at least one occasion had heard him fall heavily downstairs which she suggested might well have been the result of being pushed by Jane Price. She said that the child was</p>	1896/085

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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									being pushed by Jane Price. She said that the child was often in trouble for wetting the bed. She claimed to have spoken to Jane Price about her ill-treatment of the boy but had only received abuse in response. Alice Hawkins, wife of James Hawkins, testified that she knew that the boy had been beaten dreadfully about two weeks ago and she had heard him crying on 18 July but had not seen Jane Price striking her son. Police serjeant Knight had been summoned by Emily Bown on Saturday 18 July and had gone into Price's house where he found Jane Price to be very drunk and very abusive. Thomas Price and his son were upstairs and the boy was brought down to see Knight. He found the boy to be small for his age, under-nourished, shaking with fear and with insects on his body. Knight also reported that there had been previous complaints about Jane Price's treatment of her son from at least one year ago when the family lived in Mill Lane, and more recently after they had moved to South Street. Jane Price was convicted of ill-treating her son, Frank, and was sentenced to one month in prison with hard labour.	
Collins	Samuel Henry	King	Alfred	21	07	1896	Unlicensed vehicle	VI	Samuel Henry Collins of Portway, officer of the Inland Revenue, complained that Alfred King of Nempnett, Somerset had been using a two-wheel carriage in the In Parish of St Cuthbert on 14 May and that vehicle did not have a valid licence in force. Collins noted that there were 4 passengers in the carriage when he stopped it. Alfred King pleaded guilty to having no licence for the carriage and was ordered to take out a licence and pay costs of 7/-. The costs were recorded as paid.	1896/086
Collins	Samuel Henry	Priscott	John	21	07	1896	Unlicensed vehicle	VI	Samuel Henry Collins of Portway, officer of the Inland Revenue, complained that John Priscott of Easton had been using a two-wheel carriage in the In Parish of St Cuthbert on 14 May and that vehicle did not have a valid licence in force. Collins stated that there had been 3 passengers in the carriage when he stopped it. Priscott was ordered to take out a licence for the carriage and to pay costs of 6/-.	1896/087

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Collins	Samuel Henry	Doble	Joseph	21	07	1896	Unlicensed vehicle	VI	Samuel Henry Collins of Portway, officer of the Inland Revenue, complained that Joseph Doble of Coxley had been using a two-wheel carriage in the In Parish of St Cuthbert on 15 May and that vehicle did not have a valid licence in force. Joseph Doble pleaded guilty to having no licence for the carriage. He was ordered to take out a licence and to pay costs of 6/-. The costs were recorded as paid.	1896/088
Collins	Samuel Henry	Brown	Albert John	21	07	1896	Unlicensed vehicle	VI	Samuel Henry Collins of Portway, officer of the Inland Revenue, complained that Albert John Brown of Court Farm, Wookey had been using a two-wheel carriage in the In Parish of St Cuthbert on 15 May and that vehicle did not have a valid licence in force. Albert John Brown pleaded guilty to having no licence for the carriage. He was ordered to take out a licence and pay costs of 6/-.	1896/089
Collins	Samuel Henry	Chambers	Joseph	21	07	1896	Unlicensed vehicle	VI	Samuel Henry Collins of Portway, officer of the Inland Revenue, complained that Joseph Chambers had been using a two-wheel carriage in the In Parish of St Cuthbert on 15 May and that vehicle did not have a valid licence in force. Joseph Chambers had taken out a licence since the summons was issued to him and was instructed to pay costs of 6/-. Note: the only reference to this case occurs in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 August (see case 1896/101). In the absence of further information it is assumed that the summons was issued at the same time as the other similar cases heard at the same sessions.	1896/090
Police		Collins	Robert	24	07	1896	Begging in Sadler Street	V	Robert Collins was charged with begging in Sadler Street on 23 July. Revd. Allott testified that he had been in Humphries' shop when Collins came in purporting to sell newspapers but actually begged for 1d. Mrs Humphries had asked him to leave and Collins then turned to Revd. Allott and his wife and asked them both for money. Police serjeant Knight noted that around 14 or 15 years ago Collins had been a carpenter. At the time of his arrest Collins had 7½d in cash. Collins was fined 5/- or to go to prison for 7 days with hard labour. Note: the information about this case is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 24 July (see case 1896/093).	1896/091

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Upham	William	Kemble	Thomas	24	07	1896	Drunkenness	D	PC Upham charged Thomas Kemble with being drunk in Queen Street on 23 July. PC Upham had seen Kemble in Queen Street in company with another man, both of whom were very drunk. When arrested, Kemble was civil and used no bad language. Kemble was fined 5/- including costs. Note: the information about this case is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 24 July (see case 1896/093).	1896/092
Justices		Various		24	07	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 24 July. The cases against Robert Collins and Thomas Kemble are recorded only in these minutes. Most of the meeting was taken up with testimony in the case against Jane Price for ill-treating her son, Frank (see also case 1896/085).	1896/093
Bisgood	John	Drew	Alfred	31	07	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Alfred Drew of Mill Lane, drover, with using obscene language in High Street on 14 July. Drew pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison. The fine was recorded as paid.	1896/094
Meades	William	Dyke Ball	Edward James	04	08	1896	Sleeping in outhouse	V	P. C. Meades found Edward Dyke and James Ball sleeping in an outhouse in the garden of Mr Wilton in Priory Road at around 3.30am on the morning of 4 August. Both defendants pleaded guilty. Dyke, a drover, was discharged, but there is no information about Ball as the document has been torn and any information has been lost.	1896/095
Bisgood	John	Hatcher	Harry	05	08	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Harry Hatcher of Southover, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in Queen Street on 1 August. Hatcher failed to appear at the hearing scheduled for 10 August and a warrant for his arrest was to be issued. The case was adjourned until 13 August when Hatcher appeared and pleaded guilty. Hatcher was fined 5/- with costs of 8/- or, if in default, to spend 14 days in prison, The fine and costs were recorded as paid.	1896/096

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Welchman	Stanley Lyne	Bishop	Mark	05	08	1896	Refusing to leave licensed premises	L	<p>Stanley Lyne Welchman of The Crown Inn, innkeeper, complained that Mark Bishop of Priddy had become disorderly on 1 August while present in The Crown Inn. This led to Welchman asking Bishop to leave the premises but Bishop refused, placing himself in breach of the Licensing Act. Bishop failed to appear at the hearing scheduled for 10 August and a warrant for his apprehension was to be issued. At the adjourned hearing on 13 August Mark Bishop pleaded guilty and was fined £1 with costs of 11/-. The fine and costs were recorded as paid.</p> <p>Note: details of Bishop's three convictions from earlier in 1896 were made available to the justices; these were for using obscene language, being drunk and disorderly and for being drunk. Not all of these cases have documentation in this database.</p>	1896/097
Meades	William	Hucker	Thomas Henry	05	08	1896	Sleeping in outhouse	V	<p>PC Meades visited the Somerset & Dorset railway station at around 1.45am and heard snoring in the toilets. He found that Thomas Henry Hucker had locked himself into a cubicle and was asleep on the toilet seat. Meades woke him up and asked him what he was doing there. Hucker said that he had not got enough money for a lodging (when searched, he was found to have only 1½d in cash). When Meades attempted to take him to the police station, Hucker tried to run away but was recaptured. The notes on the case documentation indicate that Hucker was discharged by the justices and told to keep away from drink, indicating that if he was brought before them again he was likely to be sent to prison for 3 months. However, at the petty sessions sitting on 10 August the minutes show Hucker being sentenced to two calendar months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.</p> <p>Note: Hucker had already served several lengthy prison terms for absconding from the Wells Union.</p> <p>Note: there is also a letter dated 10 August from A W Richard who stated that he had been employing Hucker for a few days but because of Hucker's dirty habits, irregular timekeeping and requests to borrow money, it was no longer acceptable for him to be on the premises. However, if Hucker were steady then he could give him constant employment.</p>	1896/098

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Damerel	Samuel	Bendall Sheppard	Charles William	05	08	1896	Breach of bye-laws	Br	Samuel Damerel, caretaker of Wells recreation ground, complained that Charles Bendall of St Thomas Street, aged 11, and William Sheppard also of St Thomas Street, aged 13, were guilty of disorderly conduct in the recreation ground that breached local bye-laws on 29 July. Damerel noted that he had received several complaints from young girls that Bendall and Sheppard had been trying to put their hands up girls' clothes. The girls who had complained were Ann Sparrow of Portway, Florence Baker of High Street and Mary Loxton also of High Street, all of whom were summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Damerel also noted that this was not the first complaint that he had received about Sheppard for similar offences. Both Bendall and Sheppard pleaded guilty to the charge when the case was initially heard on 10 August (see case 1896/101) but it was then adjourned to 13 August (see case 1896/105). At that hearing Sheppard was fined 5/- plus costs of 6/9d or, if in default, to spend 14 days in prison; these sums were recorded as paid. Sheppard's father also appears to have undertaken to flog the boy. Bendall appears to have been fined 5/- plus costs of 6/9d, but there is no reference to this in the minutes of 13 August.	1896/099
Smith	Richard	Snelling Pearce Rose Mapstone	John William Joseph Gilbert	07	08	1896	Theft of pears	T	Robert Smith of Wookey Hole Lane, baker, complained that John Snelling of St John Street, William Pearce of Southover, Joseph Rose of South Street and Gilbert Mapstone of St Cuthbert Street had stolen pears to the value of 3/- from his orchard on 22 July. Albert Rodgers of High Street was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. All four defendants pleaded guilty. Each was fined 5/- and the costs of 14/- were split amongst them at 3/6d each. All the defendants were recorded as paying 8/6d each.	1896/100
Justices		Various		10	08	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 August. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries except that of Collins v Chambers (see case 1896/090) where the only record is in these minutes.	1896/101

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Pleece	Jane	Conduit	Mary Jane	11	08	1896	Assault	A	Jane Pleece, an inmate of Wells Union, complained that she had been assaulted that morning by Mary Jane Conduit, another inmate. Pleece claimed that one of the Wells Union staff had asked her to wash a little boy. While she was doing so, Mary Jane Conduit had bullied her and knocked her down onto the floor and had then rained several blows on her while she was on the ground. Fanny Judge, assistant matron, supported Pleece's story as she had initially asked Mary Jane Conduit to wash the child and she had refused, so Judge had then instructed Pleece to carry out the task. She had then seen the action taken by Conduit. She also described Conduit, who had been an inmate for around 12 to 15 months, as being a real terror to all the women. Mary Jane Conduit was found guilty of assault and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1896/102
Welchman	Stanley Lyne			13	08	1896	Licence transfer application	La	Stanley Lyne Welchman applied for the alcohol licence for The Crown Inn to be transferred to him. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 30/-. Note: this case is documented only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 August.	1896/103
Perrott	Frank			13	08	1896	Licence transfer application	La	Frank Perrott applied for the alcohol licence for The Fountain Inn to be transferred to him. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 30/-. Note: this case is documented only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 August.	1896/104
Justices		Various		13	08	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 August. Most of the cases heard are covered in earlier entries, with the exception of two licence transfer applications (see cases 1896/103 and 1896/104). A number of the cases heard were adjourned from the petty sessions sitting of 10 August (see case 1896/101).	1896/105
Guardians of Wells Union		Francis Harris	Henry Archibald	21	08	1896	Wilful damage	Wd	Henry Francis and Archibald Harris were charged with tearing clothes that had been issued to them by the Wells Union. They pleaded guilty to the charge and were each sentenced to 6 weeks in prison with hard labour.	1896/106

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Brophy	Thomas	Hatcher Hatcher	Alfred Elizabeth	21	08	1896	Refusal to leave licensed premises	L	Thomas Brophy of The Railway Tavern, beerhouse keeper, complained that Alfred Hatcher and his wife, Elizabeth Hatcher, both of Yarley near Wells, had become noisy and quarrelsome on his premises on 15 August. Brophy stated that he had left the bar for a few minutes and when he returned Alfred and Elizabeth Hatcher were trying to fight with John Vincent of South Street, mason. Brophy intervened and claimed that the Hatchers then attempted to strike him and his wife. Brophy then asked them to leave, but Alfred Hatcher refused, saying that he would not go until he had had another drink. This meant that the Hatchers placed themselves in breach of the Licensing Act. With assistance from Alfred Stevens and John Vincent, both of whom were summoned to give evidence for the plaintiff, Brophy was able to evict the Hatchers. Vincent claimed that at the beginning of the fracas Alfred Hatcher had struck him on the head. Both defendants pleaded guilty to the charge. They were fined 5/- each including costs or to spend 7 days in prison (the costs alone were recorded as 15/-).	1896/107
Bisgood	John	Allen	James	29	08	1896	Using profane and obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Allen of Ashcott, dealer, with using profane and obscene language at the cattle market on 15 August. PC Ernest West saw Allen with his cart full of pigs at around 10.45am and asked to see his licence. Allen began shouting and used a number of oaths. West provided a document which contained words that Allen had allegedly used (and this was presented at the hearing). West also stated that complaints had been received from other people attending the market about the language used by Allen. Joseph Duckett of Burcott, farmer, was summoned to give evidence on behalf of the defendant. Duckett testified that he had been in the crowd close to Allen and admitted that Allen had been shouting but he had heard no bad language. The justices decided there was insufficient evidence on which to convict Allen and the case was dismissed.	1896/108
Bisgood	John	Ball	James	08	09	1896	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Ball, labourer, with being drunk in Princes Road on 28 August. Ball pleaded guilty to the charge but was discharged by the justices.	1896/109

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Ball	James	08	09	1896	Sleeping in outhouse	V	James Ball was discovered sleeping in an outhouse in Priory Road at 12.15am on 8 September. He admitted that in the previous week he had been sleeping at Hodges Mill. James Ball was discharged (see also case 1896/095 from 4 August and case 1896/109) but with a warning from the justices that this would be the final time that he would be discharged without penalty..	1896/110
Weaver	Arthur Charles	Stephens	John Pitts	08	09	1896	Refusing to leave licensed premises	L	Arthur Charles Weaver of The Mermaid Inn, innkeeper, complained that John Pitts Stephens had become noisy and quarrelsome on his premises on 5 September. Soon after the defendant came into the bar, Weaver had warned him about using abusive language. Not much later, Weaver heard the sounds of a scuffle in the Tap Room and found Stephens with his fists in the face of man named Allen. Weaver had then asked Stephens to leave and he refused, thus infringing against the provisions of the Licensing Act. Weaver sent his ostler, Thomas Richards, for the police and when PC Meades arrived, the defendant left without further argument. The case was originally scheduled to be heard on 14 September, but was then adjourned to 13 October. Stephens pleaded guilty and was fined 7/6d including costs, to be paid by 4pm that afternoon. The fine was recorded as paid.	1896/111
Upham	William	Sweet	Mary	10	09	1896	Sleeping in outhouse	V	PC Upham found Mary Sweet sleeping in an outhouse or pigsty in a field called Tor Furlong at 11.30pm on 9 September. She stated that she needed to find somewhere out of the rain and pleaded guilty to the offence. She had previously been convicted of being a rogue and a vagabond and was now sentenced to 3 calendar months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1896/112

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Justices		Ball	Edwin	11	09	1896	Non-payment of maintenance order	N	On 16 April the justices ordered Edwin Ball to pay 2/- per week towards the maintenance of his mother, Frances Ball, who was aged and infirm and incapable of supporting herself (see case 1896/038). She was therefore dependent upon the Common Fund of Wells Union. Edwin Ball was judged capable of making a weekly contribution towards the support of his mother, but he had failed to make any payments and was now in arrears to the extent of £2.2s.0d. In addition, he would also be required to pay costs of 2/-. The justices also ordered that a distress warrant be issued against the goods and chattels of Edwin Ball to recover the outstanding debt and Ball would also be required to pay the costs associated with issuing and executing the distress warrant. Note: the documentation for this case contain pencilled annotations indicating that it was to be reissued in March 1897 with Henry Ball as the defendant for also failing to pay a maintenance order in support of his mother, Frances Ball (see case 1897/041).	1896/113
Overseers of the Poor		Various		11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	The overseers of the poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert identified those individuals who had failed to pay the poor rate set on 18 June 1896. The individuals concerned and the amounts owing are recorded in the succeeding entries.	1896/114
Overseers of the Poor		Ashton	Simon	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Simon Ashton of Southover was recorded as owing 9/- for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 11/6d. Ashton testified that he had had no work for 7 weeks and was unable to pay. He was granted one month within which to pay.	1896/114a
Overseers of the Poor		Mundy	Alfred	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Alfred Mundy of Southover was recorded as owing 5/10d for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 8/4d. An instruction was issued for a distress order to be raised.	1896/114b
Overseers of the Poor		Hopkins	Robert	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Robert Hopkins of Southover was recorded as owing 5/3d for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 7/9d.	1896/114c
Overseers of the Poor		Hutchinson	Richard	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Richard Hutchinson of Southover was recorded as owing 5/3d for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 7/9d.	1896/114d
Overseers of the Poor		Standard	Thomas	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Thomas Standard of Southover was recorded as owing 8/9d for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 11/3d.	1896/114e

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Overseers of the Poor		Thorn	Mary	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mary Thorn of Queen Street was recorded as owing 8/9d for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 11/3d. An instruction was issued for a distress warrant to be raised by 2 October.	1896/114f
Overseers of the Poor		Knight	Richard	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Richard Knight of Ethel Street was recorded as owing 14/- for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 16/6d.	1896/114g
Overseers of the Poor		Parker	George	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	George Parker of Priest Row was recorded as owing 6/5d for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 8/11d. The justices excused George Parker from paying.	1896/114h
Overseers of the Poor		Wickham	Thomas	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Thomas Wickham of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 1/2d for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 3/8d. Wickham's wife appeared at the hearing and paid 1/2d, but the justices determined that the costs should be remitted because of Wickham's poverty.	1896/114i
Overseers of the Poor		Simmons	Samuel	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Samuel Simmons of Tor Street was recorded as owing 12/10d for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 15/4d.	1896/114j
Overseers of the Poor		Stanton	William	11	09	1896	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Stanton of St Thomas Terrace, St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 12/10d for the poor rate plus 2/6d in costs making a total of 15/4d. An instruction was issued for a distress order to be raised.	1896/114k
Police		Tremayne	Edward	14	09	1896	Drunkenness	D	Edward Tremayne was charged with being drunk in Silver Street on the morning of Sunday 13 September. He pleaded guilty but was discharged by the justices. Note: the only documentation for this case is found in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 September (see case 1896/116).	1896/115
Justices		Various		14	09	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 14 September. With the exception of the case against Edward Tremayne (see case 1896/115), all the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant information from the minutes has been incorporated.	1896/116

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Pearce	Henry	28	09	1896	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Pearce of South Street, labourer, with using obscene language in Queen Street on 18 September. George Lilly, Ellen Bill and Maud Day, all of Queen Street, were called as witnesses for the prosecution. A note setting out the language allegedly used by Pearce was included in the documentation of the case. At the hearing Pearce denied the charge but was found guilty and fined 7/6d including costs. although the costs were recorded as being 15/-. Note: Henry Pearce was charged with another offence in Queen Street, but the date was given as 19 September (see case 1896/119).	1896/117
Dunn	William Edward			29	09	1896	Licence extension application	La	William Edward Dunn of The Mitre Hotel applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence to host a small concert on that same evening. The application was refused. Note: in May 1896 William E Dann was recorded as the innkeeper of The Red Ox.	1896/118
Watkins	Arthur George	Pearce	Henry	03	10	1896	Cruelty to a dog	C	Arthur George Watkins of Taunton, an inspector for the RSPCA, complained that Henry Pearce of South Street, labourer, had cruelly ill-treated a dog in Queen Street on 19 September by hitting it on the head with a stick. Hannah Wills of No 54 Southover, cheese porter, testified that she had seen Pearce walking along Queen Street and a dog had come out of Hill's shop. It had not rushed across the street at Pearce as he claimed, nor did it bark or attempt to bite Pearce, but he had struck it on the head with a knob stick and knocked it to the ground. Maud Day, a servant to Mrs Hill, provided corroborating testimony, noting that the dog had suffered a large bruise on its head and had been dazed for the rest of the day. Pearce denied the offence, claiming that the dog had rushed at him and he had used the stick in self-defence. Pearce received support from George Stephens of Southover, labourer. He testified that he had been close to the weighbridge and had seen the dog fly out at Pearce and was within a few inches of Pearce's leg when Pearce had struck it a back-handed blow. The case against him was dismissed and the costs of 9/- were borne by Watkins of the RSPCA.	1896/119

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Jenkins	William Henry	Various		03	10	1896	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, rate collector for the City of Wells, complained that various individuals had failed to pay the general district rate set on 2 April 1896. The names of the individuals concerned and the amounts outstanding are shown in the succeeding entries.	1896/120
Jenkins	William Henry	Ashton	Simon	03	10	1896	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Simon Ashton of Southover, plasterer, was shown as owing 9/1d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 11/7d. The amount owing for the district rate had been adjusted to take into account the fact that Ashton had only occupied the premises for 4 months of the period being assessed. Ashton did not appear at the hearing on 13 October but was granted a further month in which to pay the debt.	1896/120a
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	03	10	1896	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Henry Oxley of Priest Row, was shown as owing 10/5d for the general district rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 12/11d. Oxley appeared at the hearing on 13 October and was granted a further two weeks in which to pay the debt.	1896/120b
Knight	James	Adams	John	06	10	1896	Attempted suicide	Sc	Police serjeant Knight charged John Adams with attempting to end his own life by taking poison. Witnesses were police serjeant Knight and W A Lander Smith. The case was to be tried at the next sitting of the quarter sessions court.	1896/121
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Various		08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries. In addition to the entries shown on Serel's list there was evidently a query raised by Reginald Lowbridge Foster, the town clerk, regarding the attendance of Ethel Summers. In response Serel advised Foster that Ethel's attendance since the summer holidays had been very good with her having made 48 out of 50 attendances. However, Serel promised to keep an eye on the case and to advise Foster if Ethel's attendances fell away.	1896/122

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Western	Harry	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Harry Western of Tucker Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Arthur Western. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Arthur Western, aged 10, had made only 36 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 50 attendances. Arthur Western was noted as working towards standard III. Harry Western's wife attended the hearing on 13 October where her husband was fined 2/6d with the fine to be paid by Saturday.	1896/122a
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Young	Harry	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Harry Young of Tucker Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Walter Young. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Walter Young, aged 12, had made only 98 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 149 attendances. Walter Young was noted as working towards standard V. Harry Young's wife attended the hearing on 13 October and reported that Walter had been ill during the period under consideration. However, she was unable to provide a medical certificate. The hearing was adjourned for one month and the justices issued an order that Walter must attend school regularly in the future. At the petty sessions sitting on 24 November Walter's attendance at school was now regarded as satisfactory and the case was dismissed.	1896/122b
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of Tucker Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Bertie Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Bertie Vincent, aged 7, had made only 27 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 50 attendances. Joseph Vincent's wife attended the hearing on 13 October and reported that Bertie had been ill during the period under consideration and had a bad foot. However, she was unable to provide a medical certificate. Joseph Vincent was fined 2/6d.	1896/122c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Seret	Edward Athelstane	Lane	Henry	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Lane of Priest Row was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Joseph Lane. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Joseph Lane, aged 7, had made only 28 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 50 attendances. Henry Lane attended the hearing on 13 October and was fined 2/6d.	1896/122d
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Lane	Henry	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Lane of Priest Row was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Rose Lane. C Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Rose Lane, aged 7, had made only 14 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 58 attendances. Rose Lane was noted as having passed standard II. Henry Lane attended the hearing on 13 October and stated that Rose's attendance record had been affected because she had been ill for part of the time. Henry Lane was fined 2/6d.	1896/122e
Seret	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Kate White. C Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Kate White, aged 7, had made only 45 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 58 attendances. Kate White was noted as having passed standard I. Neither Joseph White nor his wife attended the hearing on 13 October. Joseph White was fined 2/6d.	1896/122f
Seret	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane White. C Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Jane White, aged 7, had made only 8 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 58 attendances. Jane White was noted as having passed standard I. Neither Joseph White nor his wife attended the hearing on 13 October. Joseph White was fined 2/6d.	1896/122g

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Young	Harry	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Harry Young of Tucker Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Rose Young. C Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Rose Young, aged 6, had made only 30 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 58 attendances. Rose Young was noted as having passed standard I. Harry Young's wife attended the hearing on 13 October and reported that Rose had been ill during the period under consideration. However, she was unable to provide a medical certificate. The hearing was adjourned for one month and the justices issued an order that Rose must attend school regularly in the future. At the hearing on 24 November Young's wife attended and the case against Harry Young was dismissed because Rose's attendance had improved.	1896/122h
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Dix	John Henry	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John Henry Dix of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Minnie Dix. C Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Minnie Dix, aged 9, had made only 37 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 58 attendances. Minnie Dix was noted as having passed standard III. Dix's wife attended the hearing on 13 October and reported that Minnie was a delicate child and was rather indulged as a result. The hearing was adjourned for one month to see if attendance improved. At the hearing on 24 November no-one appeared but the case was dismissed.	1896/122i

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Matthews	George	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Matthews of Mill Lane was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Lizzie Matthews. C Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Lizzie Matthews, aged 10, had not made any attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 58 attendances. Lizzie Matthews was noted as having passed standard II. Matthews' wife attended the hearing on 13 October and stated that Lizzie, as the eldest child, had been kept at home to look after the baby. The hearing was adjourned for one month to see if attendance improved. At the hearing on 24 November George Matthews' wife appeared and the case was adjourned for a further two months to monitor Lizzie's attendance.	1896/122j
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Perry of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Ethel Perry. C Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Ethel Perry, aged 7, had made only 40 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 58 attendances. Ethel Perry was noted as having passed standard I. Perry's' wife attended the hearing on 13 October when the case was adjourned for one month to see if attendance improved. At the hearing on 24 November Perry's wife again attended and the case was adjourned for a further two months to see if Ethel, now aged 8, improved her attendance.	1896/122k
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Perry of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Lizzie Perry. C Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Lizzie Perry, aged 10, had made only 33 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 58 attendances. Lizzie Perry was noted as having passed standard II. Perry's' wife attended the hearing on 13 October when the case was adjourned for one month to see if attendance improved. At the hearing on 24 November Perry's wife again attended and the case was adjourned for a further two months to monitor Lizzie's attendance.	1896/122l

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Matthews	George	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Matthews of Mill Lane was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Ellen Matthews. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at the Central Infants' School, reported that Ellen Matthews, aged 6, had made only 16 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 50 attendances. Matthews' wife attended the hearing on 13 October and stated that Ellen had been suffering with a bad foot. The hearing was adjourned for one month to see if attendance improved. At the hearing on 24 November George Matthews' wife attended and the case was adjourned for a further two months to monitor Ellen's attendance.	1896/122m
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Bowell	Sydenham	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Sydenham Bowell of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Harry Bowell. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at the Central Infants' School, reported that Harry Bowell, aged 5, had made only 36 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 50 attendances. Bowell's wife attended the hearing on 13 October and stated that Harry was never kept at home, but he tended to arrive late and therefore got marked as being absent. The hearing was adjourned for one month to see if attendance improved. At the hearing on 24 November Bowell's wife attended and the case against Sydenham Bowell was dismissed.	1896/122n
Seret	Edward Athelstane	Ridley	John	08	10	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John Ridley of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Herbert Ridley. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that Herbert Ridley, aged 10, had made only 52 attendances in the period to 2 October when the school was open for 96 attendances. Herbert Ridley was noted as having passed standard II. Ridley's wife attended the hearing on 13 October and noted that Herbert was a delicate child who was not well. However, she was unable to produce a medical certificate and the hearing was adjourned for one month in order for her to obtain a certificate to explain the boy's poor attendance record. At the hearing on 24 November the case was adjourned for a further two months to monitor Herbert's attendance.	1896/122o

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		13	10	1896	Appointment of special constables	*	At the petty sessions sitting of 13 October the following individuals were sworn in as special constables: - Thomas W Phillips - John George - Frederick Dowling - Henry Thorne - James Hawkins - W H Brown - Frederick Chapman - Walter Bell - Albert Collier - William Chappell - Frederick Bray.	1896/123
Cox	Jessie			13	10	1896	Licence transfer application	La	Via Mr Roach Jessie Cox applied to transfer the alcohol licence for The Star Hotel into her name from that of Sarah B Cox. The application was granted. Note: the information related to this transfer is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 October (see case 1896/125).	1896/124
Justices		Various		13	10	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 October. In addition to hearing of cases that are documented in earlier entries, this session also included the appointment of special constables (see case 1896/123) and the application for a transfer of the alcohol licence for The Star Hotel (see case 1896/124)	1896/125
George	John	Summers	Stanley	16	10	1896	Obtaining goods under false pretences	Fr	John George of Broad Street, bootmaker, complained that Stanley Summers of The Liberty of St Andrew obtained from him under false pretences a pair of boots to the value of 7/- with the intent to defraud. At a hearing on 17 October Stanley Summers was committed to appear at the next quarter sessions. He was bound over in the sum of £5 to appear at that court where John George, Kathleen Ainslie and PC Upham were to be called as witnesses.	1896/126
Police		Baker	John	02	11	1896	Drunkenness	D	John Baker was charged with being drunk in St Thomas Street on Saturday 31 October. At the hearing on Monday 2 November the case against him was dismissed on the grounds that he had been in gaol since his arrest on the Saturday	1896/127

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.
									<p>William Loxton of South Street complained that he had been assaulted and maliciously wounded by Robert Winter of Portway and Henry Boyce of St Thomas Street, painter, on 2 November. The two defendants were each bound over in the sum of £5 to appear at a hearing on 4 November; the £5 bond for Winter was provided by James Hawkins, while that for Boyce was provided by James Gardner.</p> <p>At the hearing on 4 November Loxton testified that, after he had attended the announcement of the election results in the Market Place, he had gone to The Vaults, run by Walter Vaughan, for a glass of porter. He was in one room and heard a row taking place in the other room, but did not go in. He then left the inn, but as he was leaving he was assaulted by Winter and Boyce who knocked him down and proceeded to kick and strike various parts of his body while he was on the ground, resulting in cuts to his face, damaged lips and teeth, and considerable bruising. Loxton stated that he had not spoken to Winter or Boyce and had not been involved with them at all that evening before the assault. Francis Ford stated that he had been close to The Vaults and had gone to Loxton's assistance, pulling Winter off him. He also noted that he did not see Boyce strike any blow or take part in the assault. Walter Vaughan,</p>

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Loxton	William	Winter Boyce	Robert Henry	03	11	1896	Assault	A	innkeeper of The Vaults, noted that Winter and Boyce had been together in the bar and that Winter had suggested to Henry Burt that he would like to have a smack at Burt's friend (thought to be John Walters) that evening. Burt had responded by saying that Winter could have a smack at him instead and struck Winter in the face. Vaughan had then separated them and pushed Winter into a corner before asking him to leave. Winter agreed to go and Vaughan locked the door to keep Burt inside. Vaughan confirmed that Loxton had not been involved in the fracas and did not speak to either Winter or Boyce. Loxton had then left a short time after Winter. When he heard the scuffle outside Vaughan had gone out and seen Ford pulling Winter away from Loxton and then Burt came out of the side door and struck Winter before both Winter and Boyce made off down Sadler Street. Vaughan confirmed that Boyce had not taken part in the assault on Loxton and had actually been trying to get Winter away. Mary Boyce, Henry Boyce's mother, had been in the bar that evening and she testified that her son had left the bar in order to take Winter home after the row with Burt. Burt stated that he had gone outside and seen Boyce taking Winter away after the assault on Loxton, but, again, had seen no involvement from Boyce. The case against Boyce was dismissed but Winter was fined £1 with costs of 19/-; these sums were recorded as paid.	1896/128

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Upham	William	Bartlett	George	05	11	1896	Poaching	Pc	<p>PC Upham stopped George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street, mason, on 1 November in Portway on suspicion of poaching. When Bartlett was searched Upham found 25 rabbits in his possession. William Paul of South Street was called to provide evidence for the prosecution. At a hearing on 7 November PC Upham testified that he had been on duty early in the morning of 1 November when he saw William Allen and his lurcher dog near the bottom of Chamberlain Street on his way towards his home in St Cuthbert Street. Upham noted that Allen immediately turned around and gave a signal to someone else. Upham then saw George Bartlett and Edward Hanney with Bartlett carrying a substantial bag on his shoulder. Upham stopped them and demanded to see the contents of the bag. Bartlett refused and a lengthy struggle over the bag ensued with Upham trying to wrest it from Bartlett's grasp. Upham enlisted the help of William Paul of South Street, painter, who was passing by. This enabled Upham to take control of the bag and take it to the police station, where it was determined that some of the rabbits were still warm and had been recently killed. Bartlett claimed initially that he had bought the rabbits from a man that he did not know, but subsequently it was claimed that he had got them from William Allen, a council street cleaner. Allen claimed that he had the permission of Mr Russell to catch rabbits on his land around Ben Knowle and he and Edward Hanney had gone there to hunt rabbits using Allen's dog to catch them. Bartlett had joined up with them but had not participated in catching the rabbits which was done only by Allen and Hanney. The rabbits were then passed to Bartlett for him to sell. It was noted that Bartlett had a recent conviction for game trespass in September 1896 (although this case is not documented in the petty sessions records available). Bartlett was convicted of poaching and fined £1 with costs of 16/6d. Allen and Hanney were also prosecuted for similar offences (see case 1896/131).</p>	1896/129

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Upham	William	Bartlett Hanney	George Edward	05	11	1896	Resisting a police officer and obstructing him in the execution of his duty	Op	When PC Upham was trying to establish what George Bartlett was carrying in the bag hung on his shoulder (see case 1896/129), he encountered resistance from both George Bartlett and Edward Hanney. A considerable tussle ensued over PC Upham gaining access to the contents of the bag. He therefore charged both men with resisting a police officer and obstructing a police officer in the execution of his duty. The case was subsequently withdrawn in order to focus on the related cases of poaching and assisting in poaching.	1896/130
Upham	William	Allen Hanney	William Edward	05	11	1896	Poaching	Pc	PC Upham charged William Allen of St Cuthbert Street, council street cleaner, and Edward Hanney of St Thomas Street, labourer, with assisting in poaching. Both pleaded not guilty. The major part of the testimony for this case is documented in the minutes of the hearing in the case against George Bartlett (see case 1896/129). Both Allen and Hanney were found guilty and each was fined £1 with costs of 5/6d. Note: at the hearing Edward Hanney was recorded as having three previous convictions for poaching / game trespass in 1881, 1883 and 1890, and a further conviction for obstructing the police in 1886.	1896/131
Police		Atkins	John	13	11	1896	Drunk and Wilful damage	D Wd	John Atkins was charged with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 12 November. Atkins pleaded guilty to that charge. Atkins was also charged with wilful damage to a wall belonging to Mrs Evans in South Street with some mortar broken off the wall. Atkins also pleaded guilty to this charge and was fined 5/- plus 3/- for the damage to the wall or to serve 7 days in prison. Atkins appeared to have 5/11/2d in cash when he was arrested.	1896/132
Police		Drew Trim Price Bryant	Walter Ernest Albert Reginald	13	11	1896	Theft of money	T	The four defendants were charged with stealing the sum of 3/11d from the coat pocket of Charles Sampson. Walter Drew and Reginald Bryant were 11 years old, while Ernest Trim and Albert Price were recorded as being 10 years old. All four were found guilty and each was sentenced to 3 strokes of the birch rod.	1896/133

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
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									<p>Alice Marshfield Bendall was 15 years old and lived at No 2 Tor Street with her widowed mother, Elizabeth, a brother aged 19 and a younger sister. At the time of this case her married sister, Lilian Drewitt, was also at home because her husband was working at Caterham in Surrey. Alice's mother had also taken in lodgers to make ends meet and since May Frank Charles Griffin, a blacksmith with premises in Tor Street, had been lodging there. On the evening of 9 November Alice had been in the house alone with Griffin and she claimed that he had attempted to have carnal knowledge of her. She had been sitting reading by the fire and Griffin had been on the other side. Alice testified that Griffin had asked her to go and sit on his knee but she had refused. He had then come over to her and used his knee to push her knees apart, pulled up her clothes, unbuttoned his trousers and pressed his penis against her. She had struggled against him and was eventually able to get free. She then left the house and by the time that she returned, other members of the household had come home. She said nothing to anyone about the incident because she was embarrassed to do so and she claimed that Griffin had also asked her to say nothing. Two days later she was not</p>	

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Bendall	Alice Marshfield	Griffin	Frank Charles	13	11	1896	Sexual assault on a minor	Sa	<p>feeling well and her period had not arrived and she began to worry. Her elder sister, Lilian, pressed her and eventually drew the story from her before informing her mother. Elizabeth Bendall had gone with Alice to see the town clerk, Mr Foster, and to make a complaint where Alice also noted that there had been a similar incident about one month earlier. They also went to see Dr Fairbanks and, subsequently, Dr Smith, but when finally persuaded to examine her, their findings were that there was nothing wrong.</p> <p>On the basis of the complaint lodged with Mr Foster on 13 November, PC Upham immediately went to arrest Griffin at his blacksmith's shop in Tor Street. Griffin was bailed to appear at a hearing the next day on a £50 bond from himself and two sureties of £25 each from Edward Algernon Crosse and Reginald Lewis, both of High Street. On 14 November the case was adjourned until Tuesday 17 November with Griffin being bailed on the bond of £50 from himself plus two sureties of £25 each, one provided by Henry Charles Dunkerton of Shepton Mallet, innkeeper, and the other provided by Reginald Lewis of High Street, pork butcher. At that hearing the charge appeared to have been reduced from unlawful carnal knowledge to attempted carnal knowledge. After detailed evidence from Alice, her mother and her sister, together with Griffin's denials of having had sex with the girl, the case was dismissed.</p>	1896/134
Fox	Joseph	Brooks	William	14	11	1896	Assault	A	Joseph Fox of Launcherley, carter, complained that he had been assaulted on 31 October by William Brooks of South Street, tiler. Christopher Pike of Coxley, carter, was to be called as a witness for the plaintiff, but the case was withdrawn before summons were issued.	1896/135

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Damerel	Samuel	Allen	Albert Walter	14	11	1896	Assault	A	Samuel Damerel, caretaker of Wells recreation ground, complained that Albert Walter Allen of St Cuthbert Street had assaulted him on 5 November. A number of boys had been playing in the recreation ground and letting off fireworks. Damerel had reprimanded them and they moved off for a short distance before starting to throw the fireworks at him. Damerel testified that he had heard Allen saying 'where is the old bugger' and then throwing a firework at him which had hit him in the face and eye and had rendered him unconscious for a short period. He had had to leave the recreation ground and when he returned there was no sign of the boys. Damerel also reported that he was being treated for his injuries by Dr Fairbanks. Albert Oram of High Street and Ernest Chappell of South Street were summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution and both testified to seeing Allen throw the squib in the direction of Damerel that exploded and hit him in the face. Although Allen pleaded not guilty, the evidence against him was overwhelming so that he was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs to be paid at once; the sum of 5/- was recorded as paid.	1896/136
Crick	Nathan William	Brown	Charles	14	11	1896	Unjust scales and weights	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, complained that on 7 November Charles Brown of Bath Road had in his possession for use in trade a set of scales and two weights which were unjust. At the hearing on 24 November Brown was fined £2 plus costs of 7/- and the scales and weights were forfeited; payment of the fine and costs was required by Saturday 28 November.	1896/137

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Western	Harry	14	11	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that Harry Western of No 13 Tucker Street had failed to comply with the order of the justices from July 1896 to ensure that his son, Arthur Western, attended the Central Boys' School in St John Street on every day that it was open for school attendance. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School reported that Arthur Western, aged 10, had made only 69 attendances in the period to 30 October when the school was open for 89 attendances. Arthur Western was noted as working towards standard III. At the hearing on 24 November Harry Western, who was present, was advised of his failure to comply with the attendance order. The boy, Arthur Western, aged 10, was brought before the court and he and his father were advised that if he were brought before the court again for poor school attendance, he would be sent away to an industrial school.	1896/138
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		14	11	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children concerned are shown in the subsequent entries.	1896/139
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Trimm	George Edwin	14	11	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwin Trimm of No 15b Priest Row was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Ernest Trim. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Ernest Trim, aged 10, had only made 68 attendances in the period to 30 October when the school was open for 89 attendances. Ernest Trim was noted as working towards standard IV. Note: on 23 November Ernest Trim was sentenced to 14 days in prison and 5 years at a reformatory (see case 1896/144) so this case was not reviewed at the petty sessions sitting on 24 November. Note: the documentation prepared by Serel gives the surname as Trimm, but the attendance record prepared by the boy's teacher shows the surname as Trim.	1896/139a

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	14	11	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of No 12 Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, William Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that William Vincent, aged 10, had only made 60 attendances in the period to 30 October when the school was open for 89 attendances. William Vincent was noted as working towards standard I. At the hearing on 24 November Joseph Vincent's wife appeared and the case was adjourned for a further two months to see if attendance improved.	1896/139b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	14	11	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Perry of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Frederick Perry. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Frederick Perry, aged 12, had only made 62 attendances in the period to 30 October when the school was open for 89 attendances. Frederick Perry was noted as working towards standard III. At the hearing on 24 November James Perry's wife attended and the case was adjourned for a further two months to see if attendance improved.	1896/139c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Luff	Thomas	14	11	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Luff of Town Hall Buildings was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his ward, William Thomas. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that William Thomas, aged 12, had only made 25 attendances in the period to 30 October when the school was open for 89 attendances. William Thomas was noted as working towards standard III. At the hearing on 24 November Thomas Luff's wife attended and the case was adjourned pending the production of a medical certificate for the child. Note: it is not certain whether the name of the child was William Thomas or William Thomas Luff, but the former is assumed to be the case on the basis of the entries in Serel's list and in the schoolmaster's attendance report.	1896/139d

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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Foot	Emily	14	11	1896	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Henry Foot of No 15 Silver Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Emily Foot. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that Emily Foot, aged 10, had only made 26 attendances in the period to 30 October when the school was open for 49 attendances. Emily Foot was noted as having passed standard IV. At the hearing on 24 November Albert Foot's wife attended and the case was adjourned for a further review in two months, unless Emily attended school regularly.	1896/139e
Bennett	W J			17	11	1896	Licence extension application	La	W J Bennett applied for a one-hour extension of his alcohol licence in order to host a Druids' dinner on 18 November. The application was granted. Note: the documentation of this application is contained in the notes of the petty sessions sitting of 17 November which was devoted to the hearing of the case against Frank Charles Griffin (see case 1896/134).	1896/140
Norman	Sarah Ann	Bishop	Mark	17	11	1896	Refusing to leave licensed premises	L	Sarah Ann Norman of The Angel Inn, innkeeper, complained that Mark Bishop of Priddy, labourer, had become disorderly on her premises on 16 November but, when she had asked him to leave, he refused to do so, thus placing himself in breach of the Licensing Act. George Millard of West Horrington and George Gould of East Horrington were both summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Mark Bishop pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined £2 with costs of 16/6d to be paid by Saturday 28 November. Note: this was not Bishop's first offence, since he had already been charged with 4 previous breaches of the law in 1896.	1896/141
Bisgood	John	Bishop	Mark	21	11	1896	Drunk in charge of a horse and carriage	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mark Bishop of Priddy, labourer, with being drunk in charge of a horse and carriage in Ash Lane on 16 November. Bishop pleaded guilty to the charge with W J Hippisley as a witness for the prosecution. Bishop was fined £2 with costs of 10/6d (see also case 1896/141 on 16 November).	1896/142

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
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Upham	William	Western	Alfred	23	11	1896	Theft of a dog	T	PC Upham charged Alfred Western with the theft of a dog. On the basis of information received PC Upham arrested Western in Dulcote because he had reportedly sold a stolen dog in Wells on 22 November. Edward Charles Adams of Silver Street had seen an old man and a dog near the corner of the street. The old man was selling laces. Adams offered to buy the dog from him but the old man did not hear. Western, who was just behind the old man, negotiated a price of 2/6d for the dog and the laces, but apparently did not give the money to the old man. It transpired that the dog had not belonged either to the old man or to Western but had been found in a public house in Wells on Saturday 21 November. It had been kept in the lodgings of the old man or Western overnight. It was determined that Western was not guilty of stealing the dog and the case against him was dismissed, but he was required to return the sum of 2/6d.	1896/143

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Police		Price Trim	Albert Ernest	23	11	1896	Theft of scent bottles	T	<p>Albert Price of South Street and George Ernest Trim of Priest Row, both said to be 10 years old, were charged with stealing 4 silver-topped cut glass scent bottles with a value of 10/6d from Augustus Walter of High Street on 21 November. Both boys pleaded not guilty. The names of several individuals, presumed to be witnesses, were listed alongside this case in the petty sessions minutes, specifically: Louisa Walter, Arthur Western, Jane Price, Reginald Loxton, Amelia Loxton and Agnes Vincent. PC Upham and police serjeant Knight were also included in this list. There was no record in the minutes of the evidence presented but both boys were convicted of the crime. According to the minutes both boys were to be sentenced to 6 strokes of the birch rod and to be sent to a reformatory school for 5 years beginning in December 1896; the scent bottles were to be returned. However, documents prepared on the same day as the minutes of the petty sessions hearing recorded that both boys were to be sent to Shepton Mallet prison for 14 days before going on to reformatory school from 5 December and no mention was made of the birch rod.</p> <p>Albert Price was recorded as actually being 9 years of age according to his birth certificate and the son of Thomas Price, labourer, and Jane Price. Thomas Price earned 11/6d per week and was in constant employment, but very quiet and meek. His wife, Jane, was considered to be a bad character who had already served several terms in prison for various offences, including theft and the use of profane and obscene language. Albert Price was allowed to do much as he liked, had shown previous evidence of bad conduct and was one of a gang of boys who had turned to thieving.</p> <p>George Ernest Trim was noted as being 10 years of age and was the son of George Edwin Trim, ostler, and his wife, Harriet. George Edwin Trim earned 14/- a week and his wife 6/-, but neither was in constant work and there were also three younger children at home. His parents claimed that they had tried to discipline Ernest but without much success. Ernest Trim had already been the subject of complaints for his conduct and was one of a gang of boys who had turned to thieving.</p>	1896/144

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Gray	George	23	11	1896	Drunkenness	D	George Gray of North Wootton was charged with being drunk in the Market Place on 21 November. He pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 10/- with costs of 3/6d; these sums were recorded as paid. Note: the only documentation for this case is included in the minutes of the petty sessions hearing of 23 November (see case 1896/146). Note: the surname of the defendant is unclear and may not be Gray.	1896/145
Justices		Various		23	11	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 23 November. The primary case heard was that against Price and Trim (see case 1896/144) but it is also the only documentation for the case against George Gray (see case 1896/145).	1896/146
Justices		Various		24	11	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 24 November. All the cases heard are documented in previous entries and relevant information from the minutes is included in those entries.	1896/147
Knight	James	Fitzgerald	Timothy	26	11	1896	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight charged Timothy Fitzgerald with being drunk and disorderly in Market Street on 25 November. Knight found the defendant lying against a door by the cattle market. He was insensible with drink and it was difficult to get him to the police station. Fitzgerald used lots of bad language and there were many children around. Fitzgerald pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison.	1896/148

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Whitehead	John	Banwell	Charles William	28	11	1896	Theft of brushes	T	<p>PC Whitehead of Wookey charged Charles William Banwell with the theft of two boot brushes to the value of 3/- from Elihu Marchant's in Portway on 26 November. Whitehead had gone to arrest Banwell at his father's house at Bagley near Wedmore for the theft. Banwell initially denied being in Wells on the day of the theft and was very uncooperative in answering questions. Despite Banwell's denials, Whitehead had arrested him and on the way to Wells Banwell admitted that he had stolen a candle and two boot brushes and put them in his pockets. When he had shown them to his father, his father had suggested that he try and sell them to make some money. Accordingly, he had tried to sell them on the street, but without success and in the end he had thrown the brushes away on Cathedral Green on the road to East Wells.</p> <p>At a hearing on 30 November the charge against William Banwell, Charles' father, was dismissed but Charles Banwell, aged 18, was sentenced to 3 calendar months in prison with hard labour. Witnesses at the hearing were named as Elihu Marchant; Alfred Ernest Davis, boots at The Mitre Hotel; Alfred Schett, innkeeper of The Bull's Head.</p>	1896/149
Bisgood	John	Tidball Pearce Lansdowne	Walter William Henry	09	12	1896	Obstructing the footpath	O	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Walter Tidball, William Pearce and Henry Lansdowne with deliberately obstructing the pavement in High Street on 4 December, forcing passers-by to walk in the roadway in order to get around them. It was noted that Tidball had been convicted of a similar offence in December 1893. All three defendants were found guilty with Tidball being fined 5/- and Pearce and Lansdowne 2/6d each. All the defendants were noted as paying the fines.</p>	1896/150
Bisgood	John	Ball jnr	James	09	12	1896	Drunk on licensed premises	D	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Ball the younger of Tucker Street, labourer, with being drunk in The Queen's Head on 5 December. Walter Carey and Charles Porch, both of High Street, were summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Ball pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.</p>	1896/151

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Bisgood	John	Bendall	James	09	12	1896	Permitting drunkenness on licensed premises	L	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Bendall, innkeeper of The Queen's Head, with permitting drunkenness on the premises of the inn on 5 December against the provisions of the Licensing Act (see the case against James Ball the younger, 1896/151). Police serjeant Furze had gone into Bendall's bar at around 9.30pm and seen Ball leaning drunkenly against a table by the fireplace. He also saw the landlady give Ball some change and noted that there was an alcoholic drink on the table beside Ball. Furze then instructed Bendall to remove Ball from the premises because he was drunk. Furze then left and returned about 30 minutes later to find James Ball and his father, William Ball, just emerging onto the street, with James Ball staggering around and being supported by his father. James Bendall and his wife, Elizabeth, claimed that they had not served Ball any liquor, that the change Ball had been given was money found at a table where he had been sitting and that the drink on the table beside Ball had remained untouched when Ball had left the inn. Testimony from Walter Carey and Charles Porch confirmed that James Ball had been drunk, but Robert Sheppard stated that Ball had had no drink while he was at the inn between 9pm and 10pm but he could not say how long Ball had been there before that. The case was regarded as proven and, although James Bendall pleaded not guilty to the charge, he was fined 10/- with costs of 12/6d; these sums were recorded as paid.	1896/152
Crick	Nathan William	Sheppard	John	10	12	1896	Unjust weight of coal	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, complained that on 5 December John Sheppard of Queen Street, coal merchant, had delivered to Mrs Sarah Dodd, wife of James Dodd, a sack of coal supposedly of 1 cwt in weight, but the weight being delivered was 12lbs less than the weight that Sheppard had represented. Sheppard pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1896/153

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Crick	Nathan William	Francis	John	10	12	1896	Unjust weight of coal	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, complained that on 5 December John Francis of Southover, coal dealer, had exposed for sale from a vehicle in Broad Street a sack of coal supposedly of 1 cwt in weight but actually containing less than the weight represented by John Francis. The actual weight of the coal and the bag was 1lb short and as the empty bag weighted 4lbs, the amount of coal being supplied was 5lbs short of the claimed weight of 1cwt. Francis was fined 10/- including costs of 6/-; the fine was recorded as paid.	1896/154
Crick	Nathan William	Churches	Frederick	10	12	1896	Unjust weight of coal	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, complained that on 2 December Frederick Churches of Southover, coal merchant, had delivered coal to George Williams Tyte of Sadler Street, silversmith, that was less than the quantity of coal shown on the ticket that accompanied the delivery. The delivery had been made in a two-wheeled cart and had been weighed on the public weighbridge operated at that time by Mary Hayter, wife of Charles Hayter. At the weighbridge the driver of the cart, William Rogers, had declared the tare weight of the cart to be 16.5cwt whereas it was actually 18.25cwt, thus meaning that the actual amount of coal in the vehicle was overstated and therefore the amount of coal delivered was markedly less than stated on the ticket. Rogers gave the ticket to Charles King, clock maker's assistant, who was acting as Tyte's servant or agent, and he passed it on to Tyte. As the error on the ticket was the fault of the driver, Rogers, the case against Frederick Churches was dismissed, although he was required to pay the costs of the case. A separate case was brought against Rogers (see case 1896/156).	1896/155

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Crick	Nathan William	Rogers	William	10	12	1896	Unjust weight of coal	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, complained that on 2 December William Rogers, labourer, deliberately and wilfully made a false statement regarding the tare weight of the delivery vehicle which he was using to deliver coal. At the public weighbridge he declared the tare weight of the vehicle as 16.5cwt when, in fact, it was 18.25cwt. This meant that the amount of coal in the cart was overstated and the customer overcharged. Rogers pleaded guilty to the error and was fined 10/- plus costs of 14/3d. He was granted one week within which to pay. George Williams Tyte of Sadler Street, silversmith, Charles King of Sadler Street, clockmaker's assistant and Mary Hayter, wife of Charles Haytor, operator of the public weighbridge were all named as witnesses in the case. See also the case against Frederick Churches (case 1896/155). Note: notes in the margin of the summons suggest that the fine was 10/- plus costs of 18/- making a total of £1.8s.0d.	1896/156
Crick	Nathan William	Fry	Sarah	10	12	1896	Unjust steelyard	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, complained that on 5 December Sarah Fry had in her possession for use in trade a steelyard that was unjust and disadvantaged the customers. At 56lbs it weighed 2lbs short and at 112lbs it weighed 3 lbs short. Sarah Fry pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs. She was given until Saturday to pay and the steelyard was to be forfeited.	1896/157

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Shepherd	Minnie	Brendon	William	14	12	1896	Assault	A	Minnie Shepherd, wife of William Shepherd of No 52 St Cuthbert Street, complained that she had been assaulted by William Brendon of St Cuthbert Street, fitter, on 12 December. She had been at home at around 11.15pm when she claimed that Brendon had kicked open the door and demanded that she should call up her husband so that Brendon could fight him. Brendon had then struck her in the face with his hard hat but she was saved from further assault by Charles W Brown of St Cuthbert Street, surveyor's assistant, who came in and restrained Brendon. Minnie Shepherd then called the police. At the hearing on 15 December the case was adjourned until the next petty sessions sitting on 12 January 1897. At that hearing Charles Brown testified that Brendon had been drunk. Minnie Shepherd also noted that Brendon had more recently come into their back door and threatened to kill both her and her husband. She appealed that Brendon should have to put forward sureties to control his future conduct. Brendon was found guilty and fined 5/- with costs of 11/6d bringing the total to 16/6d. If in default he would have to serve 14 days in prison. Initially, he was ordered to put forward a surety of £5 of his own money and obtain a further surety of £5 to ensure his conduct for the next 6 months with a penalty of one month in prison if he failed to do this. However at the close of the petty sessions court these provisions were removed.	1896/158
Justices		Various		15	12	1896	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of petty sessions sitting of 15 December. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries. Included with the minutes are rough notes (presumably prepared by Nathan Crick) for the prosecution of the various cases related to Weights and Measures (see cases 1896/153 to 1896/157 inclusive).	1896/159
Bisgood	John	Martin	Jacob	19	12	1896	Not in control of horse and waggon	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Jacob Martin of Littlewell Cottage in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert with being at such a distance from the horse and waggon for which he was responsible that he was not in a position to control the movement of the horse and thus posed a risk to pedestrians and other road users. The alleged offence occurred in the Market Place on 16 December. Martin pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1896/160

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.

1897

Guardians of Wells Union		Wester	John	04	01	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	John Wester was charged with tearing up his clothing in the Wells Union on 4 January. He pleaded guilty to the offence and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: surname is unclear and may not be 'Wester'.	1897/001
House	Rose	House	Herbert George	06	01	1897	Assault	A	Rose House of Bell Close Cottage complained that she had been assaulted by her husband, Herbert George House, on 3 January. The case was subsequently withdrawn before a summons was issued.	1897/002
Bisgood	John	Middle	Edwin	07	01	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edwin Middle of St Thomas Street, innkeeper of The Goat Inn, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 17 December 1896. Middle pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1897/003
Bisgood	John	Morgan jnr	John	07	01	1897	Drunkenness	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Morgan the younger of St Cuthbert Street, umbrella maker, with being drunk in the Market Place on 17 December 1896. Police serjeant Furze had seen Morgan come up High Street and go into the Market Place where he was staggering about. Morgan moved onto Cathedral Green where he fell over several times. Furze got him to the police station and, after Morgan had recovered a little, took him home. Police serjeant Knight had seen Morgan at the police station and confirmed that he was helplessly drunk. Morgan pleaded not guilty to the charge but was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs. He was allowed 14 days within which to pay.	1897/004
Wilton	George Richard	Rogers	Mabel	07	01	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	George Richard Wilton of No 15 Broad Street, cabinet maker, complained that on 26 December 1896 Mabel Rogers of Southover, wife of William Rogers, had deliberately and wilfully broken a window in Wilton's property.	1897/005

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Drew	Louisa	07	01	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Louisa Drew of Mill Lane with using obscene language in Mill Lane on 28 December 1896. A brief note setting out the language allegedly used by Louisa Drew is included in the documentation. Louisa Drew committed the offence at midnight and she was said to be sober. She pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs. She was given until Saturday to pay.	1897/006
Simmons	Samuel John Catcott	Sheppard	William	07	01	1897	Cruelty to a fowl	C	Samuel John Catcott Simmons of Tor Street complained that William Sheppard of St Thomas Street had maimed a fowl belonging to Simmons on 5 January. The bird was normally kept in a state of confinement. William Sheppard, currently aged 13, pleaded not guilty. Simmons kept a number of fowls in the lower part of the yard of The Goat Inn and he had several times cautioned Sheppard for coming into that part of the yard by climbing over the wall from his home in Morgan's Place. The maiming of the fowl appeared to have taken place as a result of the setting of a gin trap which had been set open with a clothes peg. The bird had been caught in the trap and its bill was cut off. William Sheppard initially blamed one of his brothers, who in turn said that it was William who was at fault. William Sheppard eventually admitted responsibility and was fined 5/-including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. He was given one month within which to pay the fine.	1897/007

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Upham	William	Sheppard Sheppard Sheppard	William Fred Robert	07	01	1897	Disturbing the peace	Dp	PC Upham complained that he had found the three defendants, William Sheppard, aged 14 in the coming July, Fred Sheppard, aged 10 in the coming May, and Robert Sheppard, aged 12 next January, all kicking a ball around in Tor Street at 8.10am on a Sunday morning and disturbing the residents. Upham stated that he had cautioned the boys before on several occasions, but they simply ran away. He had received several complaints from residents in Tor Street about their behaviour and their use of bad language. It was decided that Fred and Robert should be discharged while William should be brought before the justices in one month's time to determine whether or not his conduct had improved. The adjourned hearing was scheduled for 9 February, but was postponed until 9 March and again to 13 April. At that hearing the boy's father, Robert Sheppard, a labourer earning around 12/- per week but perhaps as much as 14/-, conceded that he was unable to control William's behaviour which was described as insolent and mischievous. The justices agreed that William George Sheppard should be sent to the Industrial School at Portishead until he reached the age of 16.	1897/008
Guardians of Wells Union		Smith	William	07	01	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	William Smith had been admitted to the Wells Union as a casual pauper. He was charged with ripping up his trousers and coat on 7 January. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1897/009
Bisgood	John	Hobbs	Gilbert	09	01	1897	Drunk in charge of a carriage	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Gilbert Hobbs of Westbury, farmer, with being drunk in charge of a carriage in the Market Place on 8 January. Hobbs pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1897/010
Weaver	Arthur Charles	Pearce	Henry	11	01	1897	Refusal to quit licensed premises	L	Arthur Charles Weaver, licensee of The Mermaid Inn, complained that Henry Pearce of Southover, labourer, had become violent and disorderly on his premises on 9 January. Weaver had requested that Pearce leave the inn but Pearce refused thereby placing himself in breach of the Licensing Act. Pearce was to be summoned to appear at the petty sessions sitting on 9 February, but the summons was not served.	1897/011

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Weaver	Arthur Charles	Packer	William	11	01	1897	Refusal to quit licensed premises	L	Arthur Charles Weaver, licensee of The Mermaid Inn, complained that William Packer of St Cuthbert Street, labourer, had become violent and disorderly on his premises on 9 January. Weaver had requested that Packer leave the inn but Packer refused thereby placing himself in breach of the Licensing Act. Packer pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 10/- including costs. He was given one week within which to pay.	1897/012
Moore	W			12	01	1897	Licence extension application	La	W Moore applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence in order to host a dinner on the following evening. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: the application is recorded only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 January (see case 1897/014).	1897/013
Justices		Various		12	01	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 January. All cases heard are recorded in previous entries and relevant information from the minutes incorporated.	1897/014
Police		Burns	Andrew	13	01	1897	Begging in the street	V	Andrew Burns was charged with begging in Broad Street on 12 January. At the time of his arrest he had 10d in cash and some bread and cheese. He was not violent but was shouting at the police station. He was discharged on promising to leave the city at once.	1897/015

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knowing	Annie	Worsfold	Thomas	28	01	1897	Assault	A	<p>Annie Knowing of No 10 Vicars Close, domestic servant to Mrs Green, complained that on 25 January she had been assaulted by Thomas Worsfold of No 14 Priest Row. Henry Marsh of the brush factory, carpenter, was summoned to act as a witness on Annie Knowing's behalf. The case was to be heard on 9 February but the hearing was adjourned until 9 March at the request of Knowing's counsel.</p> <p>At the hearing on 9 March Knowing said that she had been summoned to Mrs Lansdown's in South Street regarding a girl that was in Lansdown's service. When she got there she found Mrs Fanny Lansdown, her daughter, Annie Lansdown, and Thomas Worsfold. Knowing and Worsfold had crossed swords before because of Worsfold's relationship with Knowing's sister. Knowing was of the view that Worsfold had cheated her sister out of her money and called him a rogue and vagabond. In her version Worsfold got up from the sofa and struck her in the face which drew blood from her mouth, an injury said to be confirmed by Mrs Lemon when Knowing went into her house after the confrontation. In the testimony of Worsfold and the Lansdowns Knowing had attacked Worsfold and attempted to scratch his face, while he had simply put up an arm to defend himself and this had made contact with Knowing's face. The justices decided that each side was as much to blame as the other and both this case and Worsfold's countersuit (see case 1897/017) were dismissed with each side being responsible for their own costs. In addition Knowing was required to pay the costs of the adjournment as it was her side that had requested it.</p> <p>Note: the spelling of the defendant's name is shown in some documents as Worsfold but in others as Westfold.</p>	1897/016

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Worsfold	Thomas Robert	Knowling	Annie	30	01	1897	Assault	A	Thomas Robert Worsfold of No 35 Grant's Avenue, Bournemouth East complained that he had been assaulted by Annie Knowling of No 10 Vicars Close on 25 January. This was a countersuit to the case brought against him by Annie Knowling (see case 1897/016). The case was to be heard on 9 February but was adjourned to the petty sessions sitting in March (see case 1897/042) apparently at the request of the solicitor engaged by Annie Knowling. More information about the hearing is noted in the case of Knowling v Worsfold (see case 1897/016).	1897/017
Bisgood	John	Ayres jnr	Alfred	30	01	1897	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Alfred Ayres the younger of Southover, labourer, with being drunk in Southover on 10 January. Police serjeant Furze testified that Ayres had been so drunk that he had fallen into a window and had broken it. Ayres pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs, although the costs alone were recorded as being 6/-. In addition, Ayres was also made responsible for repairing the damaged window.	1897/018
Police		Axe	Thomas	01	02	1897	Drunkenness	D	Thomas Axe, tramp, was charged with being drunk in the Market Place on Saturday 30 January. He pleaded guilty and was discharged by the justices.	1897/019
Police		Osborne	William Henry	02	02	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	William Henry Osborne of St Albans near London was charged with using obscene language in Southover on 1 February. Osborne pleaded guilty and was sent to prison for 14 days in Shepton Mallet.	1897/020

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Francis	Albert Edward	04	02	1897	Obstructing the highway	O	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Albert Edward Francis of Southover, labourer, with obstructing the highway in St Thomas Street on 1 February by leaving a horse and waggon there unattended. PC Upham had found Francis drinking by the fire in a nearby inn. Francis was fined 5/- including costs, although the costs alone were recorded as 6/-. Francis was allowed a fortnight within which to pay the fine.</p> <p>The fine was not paid and a distress warrant was issued to recover the debt, but this warrant was not issued until 20 May 1898. The distress procedure found insufficient funds to recover the debt and Albert Edward Francis was then summoned to appear before the justices on 12 December 1898 to show why he should not be sent to prison for his default on the debt which then stood at 8/-. At the hearing on 12 December the summons was recorded as having been served personally on Francis but there is no further information (see case 1898/185).</p>	1897/021
Snelling	John	Cannon	Thomas	06	02	1897	Perjury	Pj	<p>John Snelling of St John Street, aged 17 and a mechanic employed at St Cuthbert's Mill, complained that Thomas Cannon of the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, under gamekeeper, had committed perjury on 1 February when stating that he had seen Snelling taking part in poaching activities at a location on the Bristol Road on 22 January. At the hearing on 1 February Cannon was specifically asked by Snelling if it was him that he had seen with the individuals who were engaged in poaching and then asked by Snelling's counsel if he could swear that it was Snelling. To both questions Cannon answered an unequivocal 'yes'. Snelling testified that he had not been involved since he was at home in bed and asleep because he was working night shifts and needed to sleep in the afternoons. He stated that his mother and other members of his family would testify that he had been in bed at the time the poaching activities were said to be taking place. Snelling also stated that other members of the group who had been arrested for poaching were on record as saying that Snelling was not present.</p>	1897/022

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		09	02	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 February. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries, including the case involving Knowing and Westfold which was adjourned until the next petty sessions sitting (see case 1897/042).	1897/023
Crick	Nathan William	Nicholls	John	12	02	1897	Failure to specify tare weight of waggon	Wm	Nathan William Crick of Bridgwater, inspector of weights and measures, complained that John Nicholls of Farrington Gurney, coal haulier, had failed to provide the correct information on the delivery ticket for a bulk shipment of coal that he was making on 11 February. In particular, he had failed to show the tare weight of the waggon on which the coal was being transported. The following individuals were called as witnesses for the prosecution: George Hobbs of Farrington Gurney, weighman; Charles Hayter of Priors Road, lessee of the public weighbridge in Wells; Sarah Radnedge of the Market Place, wife of Arthur Sheard Radnedge. Nicholls pleaded guilty to the charge of failing to provide the correct weighing information on the delivery ticket. The justices were of the view that no fraud had been intended but Nicholls was required to pay the costs of the case which amounted to 27/-; this sum was recorded as paid.	1897/024
Police		Gill	John	12	02	1897	Vagrancy	V	John Gill was charged with vagrancy for sleeping overnight in a GWR carriage on 11 February. A note in the margin of the petty sessions documentation appears to suggest that he might have been an agent for an advertising agency and an address of 39 Queen Street is given, although it is unclear whether that was Gill's address or that of the agency. Gill was discharged by the justices.	1897/025
Police		Wibley	William	15	02	1897	Drunk and disorderly Wilful damage	D Wd	William Wibley was charged with being drunk and disorderly in St John Street on Saturday 13 February. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 14 days in prison. He was also charged with wilful damage to a table that was the property of Edward Freeman; the damage was assessed at 2/-. Wibley again pleaded guilty to the charge. The notes from the hearing indicate that the cost of the damage was to be taken from the money found on Wibley at the time of his arrest, a sum of 7/4d. The notes also show an entry of '28 days previous'; it is assumed that this refers to time served by Wibley for earlier offences.	1897/026

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Guardians of Wells Union		Martin	George	16	02	1897	Refusing to work	Rw	As an inmate of Wells Union workhouse George Martin was charged with refusing to carry out the task that he had been assigned. Martin claimed that it was a task that was impossible for him to carry out as he was suffering from heart disease. Martin was found guilty and sentenced to spend 7 days in prison at Shepton Mallet.	1897/027
Police		Grimshaw	Daniel	23	02	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	Daniel Grimshaw of Manchester, aged 14, was charged with wilful damage by deliberately breaking a pane of glass on Friday 19 February. The damage was assessed at 2/-. At the hearing on 23 February Grimshaw was discharged, having been in gaol since his arrest on 19 February.	1897/028
Crosse	Edward Algernon	Woodburn Styles	Ida Olivia	27	02	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	Edward Algernon Crosse, wine merchant, complained that on 10 February Ida Woodburn, aged 10, and Olivia Styles, aged 8, both of Town Hall Buildings, had deliberately and wilfully broken a window pane valued at 3/- on the premises of Crosse Brothers. The girls pleaded guilty to the offence. The case against them was dismissed and the costs remitted.	1897/029
Knight	James	Brophy	Thomas	27	02	1897	Breach of bye-laws	Br	James Knight of Town Hall Buildings, inspector of common lodging houses, complained that Thomas Brophy of Southover, keeper of a common lodging house, had broken local bye-laws by providing a bed to be occupied at the same time by two males above the age of 10 years. William Moore of Southover was called as a witness for the prosecution. Brophy pleaded guilty to the charge and was instructed to pay costs of 8/-; this sum was recorded as paid.	1897/030
Osman	Frederick William	Hall Allen	Henry Henry	27	02	1897	Refusing to work	Rw	Frederick William Osman, master of the Wells Union workhouse, complained that Henry Hall and Henry Allen had refused to carry out the tasks appointed to them. They had done half the task assigned and then refused to do any more. Both defendants were found guilty and sentenced to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour. Note: there is also a reference to these two individuals in the documentation of the case against Williams and Shannon (see 1897/044). Against the names of Hall and Allen are shown the amounts of 8/1d and a total of 16/2d.	1897/031

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Mogg	Sidney George	Higgins jnr	William	27	02	1897	Larceny of cigarette case	T	<p>On 27 February Willie Higgins the younger of Glastonbury, cabinet maker, was charged with the theft of a cigarette case with a value of 5/- on 11 February, the case being the property of Sidney George Mogg of High Street, butler. Higgins was required to put forward a recognisance of £20 plus two sureties of £10 each to ensure his attendance at a hearing on 1 March. The sureties were provided by James Farnham Edward Swain of Glastonbury, wine and spirit merchant, and Henry Rossiter of Glastonbury, landlord of The Rose & Crown.</p> <p>On 1 March Higgins was instructed to appear before the justices when called and, in the meantime, to keep the peace and be of good behaviour for the next 12 months.</p> <p>Note: at some points in the case documentation the defendant is referred to as 'Willie Higgins Higgins' rather than 'William Higgins the younger'.</p>	1897/032
Hesmondhalgh	Herbert Nelson	Higgins jnr	William	27	02	1897	Larceny of tobacco pouch	T	<p>On 1 March a further charge of theft was brought against William Higgins the younger. In this instance he was accused of stealing a tobacco pouch with a value of 3/-, again on 11 February. In this case the tobacco pouch was the property of Herbert Nelson Hesmondhalgh. As in the previous case (see case 1897/032) a recognisance of £20 was required from Higgins together with two sureties of £10 each. The same individuals were involved except that in this case the second surety of £10 was provided by Joseph Idiens of Glastonbury (rather than Henry Rossiter). Hesmondhalgh claimed that he had the tobacco pouch with him when attending a ball in the Town Hall at Wells and had put it in the pocket of his overcoat which he left in the cloakroom. He missed the pouch early next morning. He did not see Higgins and was unable to confirm for certain that the tobacco pouch found on Higgins was his, although it was remarkably similar. Higgins summoned George Howard Smith, tobacconist, from whom Higgins claimed to have bought the pouch, and George Henry Rogers who testified that Higgins had a tobacco pouch before arriving at the ball, although he could not be certain that the pouch found on Higgins was that one.</p> <p>Higgins was scheduled to appear at a hearing on this charge on 3 March but the case was dismissed since there was no appearance by the prosecutor, Hesmondhalgh, who wrote to the police at Wells saying that he would be pleased if</p>	1897/033

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
									Higgins was able to prove that he had purchased the tobacco pouch and would be happy if the case did not proceed.	
Bisgood	John	Hallett	Isaac	27	02	1897	Failure to control horses and waggon	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Isaac Hallett of St John Street, carter, with not being in a position to control the movement and direction of the waggon and horses for which he was responsible. The alleged offence took place on 11 February when Hallett was said to be around 150 yards behind the waggon and horses as they proceeded down Priory Road. Hallett pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 7/6d including costs. He was allowed a fortnight within which to pay.	1897/034
Bisgood	John	Morgan jnr	John	01	03	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Morgan of St Cuthbert Street, chimney sweep, with using obscene language in St Cuthbert Street on 26 February. PC Gilson heard Morgan using obscene language towards his wife in their house at around 12.15am. Morgan then came outside and continued abusing his wife from the street. She then shut the door, but he kicked it open and used more bad language. He continued for some time until PC Gilson arrested him. Emily Allen of No 31 St Cuthbert Street who lived opposite Morgan testified against him. Morgan was fined 10/- including costs to be paid forthwith.	1897/035
Bisgood	John	Adams	Charles	02	03	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Adams of Silver Street, gas fitter, with being drunk and disorderly in St John Street on 1 March. The plaintiff asked for the case to be withdrawn and the charge against Adams was dismissed.	1897/036
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	02	03	1897	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, reported that Henry Oxley of Priest Row had failed to pay the general district rate set on 5 October 1896. Oxley was recorded as owing 8/9d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 11/3d. At the hearing on 9 March Oxley pleaded poverty and was given until 9 April to clear the outstanding debt and his arrears in full.	1897/037

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Western	Harry	05	03	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edwin Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that on 8 July 1896 he had secured an order requiring Harry Western's son, Arthur, to attend the Central Boys' School in St John Street on every day that it was open for attendance (see case 1896/082i), but the boy and his parents had failed to comply with the order. Serel had made an earlier complaint of this nature in November 1896 (see case 1896/138) and at that time the justices stated that if Arthur Western was brought before them again for failing to attend school, then he would be sent away to an industrial school. Serel now stated that Arthur Western was still not compliant with the order and his attendance at school remained unsatisfactory. Harry Western and his wife, Elizabeth (née Stott), claimed that they had tried to get Arthur, aged 10 (11 on 5 May 1897) to attend school as promised but he did not enjoy school and frequently played truant. His parents were assessed by the justices as being of good character and this was also true of Arthur's 5 brothers and one sister. The justices determined, as previously forewarned, that Arthur should be sent away to the Industrial School in Bath and should remain there until he reached the age of 16. On the basis of Harry Western's income of around £1 per week, the justices proposed that Arthur's parents should contribute the sum of 1/6d per week towards Arthur's maintenance while at the school (but see case 1897/056 for a later decision).	1897/038
Brophy	Elizabeth	Gilson	Albert	06	03	1897	Assault	A	Elizabeth Brophy of Southover, wife of Thomas Brophy, lodging house keeper, complained that on 4 March she was assaulted by Albert Gilson, police constable. Gilson had come to Brophy's premises to serve a summons on Thomas Brophy on 4 March. Brophy was not present and his wife refused to accept it. She claimed that Gilson had then grabbed the front of her clothes and attempted to push the summons into her apron, but she pushed his hand away and the summons fell to the floor where it remained until Thomas Brophy returned and picked it up. Elizabeth Brophy said that she was upset by Gilson's attitude because she had always found the police to be helpful and civil. She had never complained before and did not wish to press charges. The case was withdrawn and the costs remitted.	1897/039

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Slade	William	06	03	1897	Begging in the street	V	William Slade, aged 72, was charged with begging in High Street at around 7.30pm on 5 March. When arrested, he was said to be very rude and insolent. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was instructed to leave the city that day. Note: the name of the defendant is not clear and may be something other than Slade.	1897/040
Guardians of Wells Union		Ball	Henry	09	03	1897	Maintenance order	N	The Guardians of Wells Union complained that Henry Ball was not contributing to the support of his mother, Frances Ball. Henry's mother was described as getting 4/- per week and living with someone called Andrews, a market gardener. Henry Ball was ordered to pay 6d per week for the summer. Note: there is virtually no information on this case except the brief and incomplete notes from the petty sessions sitting. Henry's brother, Edwin, was the subject of a similar case in 1896 (see case 1896/113) and the documents for that case have pencilled notes in preparation for a similar case to be mounted against Henry Ball in March 1897. At the petty sessions sitting on 11 May it was reported that Henry Ball owed 9 weeks payments against the order made on 9 March instructing him to pay 6d per week towards the support of his mother Note: there is a reference to someone being 62 years of age but it is not clear if that refers to Henry Ball or to his mother.	1897/041
Justices		Various		09	03	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 March. With the exception of the case against Henry Ball (see case 1897/041) all the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated in those entries.	1897/042
Police		Gould Dyke	William Edward	22	03	1897	Sleeping tough	V	William Gould and Edward Dyke were charged with vagrancy after being found at 12.30am sleeping in a hayloft in Mill Lane owned by Mrs Nurse. Both men had pipes and matches but little else in the way of possessions. Both defendants were sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1897/043
Guardians of Wells Union		Williams Shannon	Joseph Patrick	26	03	1897	Absconding from the workhouse	Ab	25 casual paupers had been admitted to the workhouse on 26 March. Two of them, Joseph Williams and Patrick Shannon, then escaped by climbing over the wall when the porter's back was turned. Each of them was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1897/044

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Dennis	E C			26	03	1897	Licence extension application	La	E C Dennis applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence at The Star Inn to host the Hunt dinner. The application was granted. Note: the only documentation for this application is shown in the margin of the case against Williams and Shannon (see case 1897/044).	1897/045
Bisgood	John	Bennett	James	30	03	1897	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Bennett of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, with causing an obstruction of the highway in Broad Street by parking a horse and trap there for more than one hour while he was drinking in The Angel Inn. Bennett pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1897/046
Allen	Frank Saunders	Price Price	Thomas Jane	30	03	1897	Cruelty to a child	It	Frank Saunders Allen of Bath, inspector for the NSPCC, complained that Thomas and Jane Price of No 5 South Street had severely ill-treated their son, Frank Price, causing the boy unnecessary suffering and injuring his health. Charlotte Kenniston of No 3 South Street, wife of Henry Kenniston, and Emily Clements of No 7 South Street were called upon to give evidence for the plaintiff. At the hearing on 13 April testimony was also taken from Edith Embry of High Street and Emily Bown of South Street, both of whom had provided food and/or clothing to Frank Price. Evidence from police serjeant Knight and Frank Saunders Allen of the NSPCC showed that Frank Price was neglected, given insufficient food and clothing, was made to sleep on matting on the floor because he wet the bed, and was frequently beaten by his mother. As a result the boy was underweight, in ill health, very weak and also very frightened. The justices concluded that the boy would be taken into care and responsibility for him would be given to Frank Saunders Allen. The case against his father, Thomas Price, was dismissed, but his mother, Jane Price, was sentenced to 6 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1897/047

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Jones	Mary	30	03	1897	Drunkenness	D	Mary Jones was charged with being drunk in Priory Road on 29 March. She was found sitting down in Priory Road at 11.30pm. It appears that she belonged to Moretonhampstead, although around 5 weeks previously she had been in Oxfordshire. She claimed to be living with her son-in-law. She earned some money by picking flowers and selling them. The justices discharged Mary Jones. Note: the notes of the hearing are both fragmentary and unclear.	1897/048
Bishop	Harriett	Wooley	Ann	03	04	1897	Theft of skirt and shirt	T	Harriett Bishop of the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, wife of James Bishop, complained that on 22 March Ann Wooley of the Miners Arms Inn in the parish of Chewton Mendip, had stolen from her a dress skirt and a man's white shirt with a value of 7/-. Ann Wooley pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 3 calendar months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1897/049
Police		Lester	George	03	04	1897	Drunkenness	D	George Lester who belonged to Southampton and was not in work was charged with being drunk by the causeway on 2 April. He was said to be incapable of walking and used a good deal of bad language with lots of children around. It took two people to assist in getting him to the police station. Lester was fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison.	1897/050
Guardians of Wells Union		Cox	Charles	06	04	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	Charles Cox, aged 74, was charged with wilfully breaking 12 panes of glass valued at 12/- in the Wells Union workhouse. He pleaded guilty to the charge. Cox had been in the workhouse for 2 - 3 years. After the damage had been reported Cox had been locked up and had been held for 2 days. The justices then discharged him.	1897/051
Jenkins	William Henry	Ham	Walter	08	04	1897	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, reported that Walter Ham of No 10 Queen Street had failed to pay the general district rate set on 5 October 1896. Ham was recorded as owing 4/10d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/4d.	1897/052

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Trim	George	08	04	1897	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, reported that George Trim of No 15b Priest Row had failed to pay the general district rate set on 5 October 1896. Trim was recorded as owing 7/- for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 9/6d. Trim pleaded that he had been ill and out of work and had three children to support. He was granted one month within which to pay the debt.	1897/053
Bisgood	John	Beacham	Frank	08	04	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frank Beacham of Southover with using obscene language in Southover on 2 April. Frank Chapman of Southover was summoned as a witness for the prosecution and he also provided a handwritten note setting out the alleged language that Beacham had used towards him. Beacham pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- plus costs of 11/-. He was given until Saturday to pay.	1897/054
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Stevens jnr	George	09	04	1897	Maintenance order	Mo	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Guardians of Wells Union, reported that George Stevens the elder, an old and poor person incapable of supporting himself, had become chargeable to the Common Fund of the Wells Union on 20 January 1897 and was still chargeable in this way as at 31 March 1897. Thatcher reported that George Stevens the younger, son of George Stevens the elder, was living at High Street in Durdham Down near Bristol where he was the innkeeper of The Silver Key. Thatcher considered that George Stevens the younger had sufficient means to be able to provide relief and support to his father. The case was initially debated at the petty sessions sitting on 13 April and a decision made to adjourn the case for one month. At the hearing on 11 May the justices determined that George Stevens the younger was of sufficient means to support his father by paying the sum of 2/- week for as long as his father remained incapable of supporting himself. In addition, George Stevens the younger was also required to pay the sum of 9/6d to the Guardians of Wells Union to cover the costs of the case.	1897/055

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Western	Harry	10	04	1897	Maintenance order	Mo	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, applied to the justices for a maintenance order to be awarded against Harry Western of Tucker Street, stoker, to contribute to the support of his son, Arthur Western, aged about 11, who had been detained in the industrial school in Bath until he reached the age of 16 (see case 1897/038 from 5 March). At the hearing when the justices debated sending Arthur Western to an industrial school they held the view that a weekly payment of 1/6d from Harry Western would be an appropriate amount. At the petty sessions sitting on 13 April police serjeant Knight reported that Harry Western earned around £1 per week, but was sometimes unable to work because of ill health. There were 5 children who were dependent on him and there was an elder boy who earned 3/9d per week. The justices took this information into account and determined that Harry Western should be required to pay only 1/- per week until Arthur Western's 16th birthday.	1897/056
Ashman	Emily			13	04	1897	Licence transfer application	La	Emily Ashman applied for the alcohol licence for The Full Moon to be transferred into her name. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 30/-. Note: this application is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 April (see case 1897/058).	1897/057
Justices		Various		13	04	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 April. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries. Relevant information from the petty sessions sitting is incorporated in these entries.	1897/058
Bisgood	John	Tons Tons	Elizabeth George	01	05	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Elizabeth Tons and George Tons of No 3 Gloucester Lane, Bristol, travellers, with using obscene language in the Market Place on 30 April. The couple admitted the offence and pleaded guilty. PC Gilson, the arresting officer, stated that the Tons had been very abusive and had used extremely bad language in front of lots of people and it had taken around one hour to remove them from the Market Place. Elizabeth and George Tons were each fined 10/- including costs; the fines were recorded as paid.	1897/059
Police		Stockley	Henry	03	05	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC West charged Henry Stockley with being drunk and disorderly. Stockley pleaded guilty and the case was dismissed after he promised to leave the city immediately.	1897/060

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Hillier	Arthur Robert Davis	Webb	Ernest William Job	06	05	1897	Unauthorised absence from work	Ab	Arthur Robert Davis Hillier of Hillers Brush and Chain Manufacturers complained that Ernest William Job Webb, one of the firm's apprentices, had taken unauthorised absence from work on 3, 4 and 5 May. As a consequence the firm claimed compensation from Webb of 6/-.	1897/061
Bisgood	John	Hippisley	William	07	05	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Hippisley of St Thomas Street with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 11 April. Police serjeant Furze stated that Hippisley was making a lot of noise with much shouting and swearing. Hippisley pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d with costs of 6/-. He was given until Saturday to pay and 5/- was recorded as received.	1897/062
Bisgood	John	Classey	John	07	05	1897	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Classey of Westbury-sub-Mendip, baker, with obstructing the highway in Broad Street on 12 April by parking a horse and waggon there. PC Upham testified that he had found Classey's horse and waggon tethered to a lamppost and occupying a substantial portion of the roadway. He watched it for 20 minutes before Classey returned. Classey claimed that other vehicles could pass by and Upham confirmed that several vehicles went by while he was watching. Despite pleading not guilty Classey was fined 5/- with costs of 6/-; these sums were recorded as paid.	1897/063

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Rodgers	Henry James	Vincent jnr	Harry	07	05	1897	Assault	A	<p>Henry James Rodgers of High Street, farmer, complained that he had been unlawfully assaulted on 1 May by Harry Vincent the younger of High Street, fishmonger's assistant. Henry Young of Tucker Street, quarry man, and his wife, Sarah Young, were both summoned as witnesses for the plaintiff.</p> <p>Rodgers had been walking down High Street at around 11.15pm on Saturday evening. Henry Vincent the elder was offering shrimps at 2d per lb while his son was throwing some shrimps into the gutter. Rodgers stopped and suggested that it would be better to sell the shrimps rather than throw them away. He was told to mind his own business and go away. Rodgers claimed that Harry Vincent the younger then struck him in the mouth with his fist and knocked him down. The Vincents claimed that Rodgers had struck the first blow at Harry Vincent the younger. Rodgers' version was supported by Harry and Sarah Young with Sarah confirming that she had not seen Rodgers strike Vincent. On the other hand Albert John Willcox of No 23 St Cuthbert Street agreed with the Vincents and stated that Rodgers had indeed struck Vincent first and he had responded in self-defence. The justices decided that both parties were equally at fault and that they should each pay their own costs.</p> <p>Note: Henry Vincent the younger filed a countersuit on the following day (see case 1897/065).</p>	1897/064
Vincent jnr	Henry	Rodgers	Henry James	08	05	1897	Assault	A	<p>Henry Vincent the younger of High Street complained that he had been unlawfully assaulted by Henry James Rodgers of High Street, farmer, on 1 May. This was a countersuit to the case brought by Henry James Rodgers (see case 1897/064 for more details of the case).</p> <p>Note: in this case the plaintiff is named as Henry Vincent the younger whereas he was referred to as Harry Vincent the younger in the case brought against him.</p>	1897/065
Bisgood	John	Francis	John	08	05	1897	Owning a dog without a licence	DI	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Francis of Southover, coal haulier, with owning a dog but not having taken out a licence for it. The offence was identified on 4 May. Francis claimed that he was actually getting rid of the dog and was discharged.</p>	1897/066

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Parsons	William	08	06	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Parsons of Portway with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 6 May. Parsons pleaded guilty but was discharged by the justices.	1897/067
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1897/068
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hatcher	Alfred	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred Hatcher of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Alfred Hatcher the younger. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Alfred Hatcher the younger, aged 10, had made only 40 attendances while the school was open for 83 attendances. Alfred Hatcher the younger was recorded as having passed standard I. Alfred Hatcher's wife attended the hearing where Alfred Hatcher the elder was fined 2/6d, the fine to be paid by Saturday.	1897/068a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Jane Allen of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Frederick Allen. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Frederick Allen, aged 9, had made only 47 attendances while the school was open for 83 attendances. Frederick Allen was recorded as having passed standard I. Jane Allen attended the hearing and was fined 2/6d to cover all three cases involving her children. The fine was to be paid by Saturday.	1897/068b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Jane Allen of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, William Allen. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April William Allen, aged 11, had made only 48 attendances while the school was open for 83 attendances. William Allen was recorded as having passed standard II. Jane Allen attended the hearing and was fined 2/6d to cover all three cases involving her children. The fine was to be paid by Saturday.	1897/068c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Jane Allen of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Elizabeth Allen. Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Elizabeth Allen, aged 9, had made only 36 attendances while the school was open for 73 attendances. Elizabeth Allen was recorded as having passed standard I. Jane Allen attended the hearing and was fined 2/6d to cover all three cases involving her children. The fine was to be paid by Saturday.	1897/068d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Albert	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, John White. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April John White, aged 12, had made only 30 attendances while the school was open for 83 attendances. John White was recorded as having passed standard III. Albert White's wife attended the hearing at which Albert White was excused.	1897/068e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Witcombe	Esther	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Esther Witcombe of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, William Witcombe. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April William Witcombe, aged 12, had made only 53 attendances while the school was open for 83 attendances. William Witcombe was recorded as having reached standard III. Esther Witcombe attended the hearing where the case was adjourned for one month to see if William's attendance improved. At the hearing on 15 June Esther Witcombe attended and was fined 2/6d.	1897/068f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, William Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April William Vincent, aged 11, had made only 83 attendances while the school was open for 121 attendances. William Vincent was recorded as having reached standard II. Joseph Vincent's wife attended the hearing where Joseph Vincent was fined 2/6d to cover both cases involving his sons. The fine was to be paid by Saturday.	1897/068g

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Frederick Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Frederick Vincent, aged 12, had made only 91 attendances while the school was open for 121 attendances. Frederick Vincent was recorded as having passed standard III. Joseph Vincent's wife attended the hearing where Joseph Vincent was fined 2/6d to cover both cases involving his sons. The fine was to be paid by Saturday.	1897/068h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Batey	Mrs	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mrs Batey of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Jane Batey. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Jane Batey, aged 10, had made only 71 attendances while the school was open for 116 attendances. Jane Batey was recorded as having passed standard III. Mrs Batey attended the hearing where she was fined 2/6d to be paid by Saturday.	1897/068i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Jane White, aged 11, had made no attendances while the school was open for 116 attendances. Jane White was recorded as having passed standard I. Joseph White's wife attended the hearing where Joseph White was excused on the basis of the medical certificate produced in respect of his daughter.	1897/068j

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Edith Edwards. Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Edith Edwards, aged 8, had made only 7 attendances while the school was open for 73 attendances. Edith Edwards was recorded as having passed infant standard. At the hearing on 11 May the case against George Edwards was adjourned for one month pending the production of a medical certificate for Edith. At the adjourned hearing a medical certificate was provided for Edith Edwards stating that she had been unable to attend school because she had contracted measles and subsequent to that infection had suffered from bronchitis for several weeks. George Edwards' wife attended this hearing where, despite the medical certificate, Edwards was fined 2/6d.	1897/068k
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Alfred Edwards. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Alfred Edwards, aged 11, had made only 39 attendances while the school was open for 83 attendances. Alfred Edwards was recorded as having reached standard II. George Edwards' wife attended the hearing where George Edwards was fined 2/6d.	1897/068l

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hippisley	William	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Hippisley of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Nellie Hippisley. Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Nellie Hippisley, aged 8, had made only 50 attendances while the school was open for 73 attendances. Nellie Hippisley was recorded as having reached standard I. William Hippisley and his wife attended the hearing where the case was adjourned for one month to see if Nellie's attendance improved. Note: a letter from Dr Smith noted that Mrs Hippisley was suffering from a severe form of diabetes which prevented her from doing any work (implying that some of that burden needed to be borne by the children). At the hearing on 15 June William Hippisley did not attend, but the case against him was dismissed.	1897/068m
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hippisley	William	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Hippisley of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Blanche Hippisley. Katharine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Blanche Hippisley, aged 10, had made only 41 attendances while the school was open for 73 attendances. Blanche Hippisley was recorded as having reached standard III. William Hippisley and his wife attended the hearing where the case was adjourned for one month to see if Blanche's attendnace improved. Note: a letter from Dr Smith noted that Mrs Hippisley was suffering from a severe form of diabetes which prevented her from doing any work (implying that some of that burden needed to be borne by the children). At the hearing on 15 June William Hippisley did not attend, but the case against him was dismissed.	1897/068n
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Matthews	John	08	05	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John Matthews of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Ellen Matthews. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at Wells Central Infants' School, reported that in the period ending 30 April Ellen Matthews, aged 7, had made only 29 attendances while the school was open for 118 attendances. At the hearing John Matthews was fined 2/6d to be paid at once.	1897/068o

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		11	05	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 May. Most of the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant information from the petty sessions sitting are incorporated in those entries.	1897/069
Bisgood	John	Hawkins	Joseph	15	05	1897	Keeping a dog without a licence	DI	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Joseph Hawkins of South Street, haulier, with keeping a dog without having a licence for it. The offence was identified on 11 May. Hawkins pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs. He was given until Saturday to pay.	1897/070
Guardians of Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	15	05	1897	Absconding from the workhouse	Ab	Thomas Henry Hucker was charged with absconding from the Wells Union workhouse. He had been admitted to the casual pauper ward, but very soon had climbed over the wall and absconded. Hucker had a number of previous convictions for the same offence. He was sentenced to spend 2 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1897/071
Masters	Matilda	Masters	William	19	05	1897	Ill-treatment of another person	It	Matilda Masters complained that her husband, William Masters of No 2 Greenbank Villas, Burcot Road, insurance agent, had been guilty of persistent cruelty to her with the result that she had now left him in order to live apart from him. She sought an order enabling her to separate from him and to retain her own possessions.	1897/072

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Foote	Agnes	Foote	Albert Henry	26	05	1897	Assault / threats of assault	A	<p>Agnes Foote, since 1884 the wife of Albert Henry Foote of No 15 Silver Street, labourer at the factory earning around £1 per week, complained that for some time she had been the subject of assaults and threats of assault made by her husband. When sober, he was a good husband and father, but he had recently been drinking a lot and when in drink he became very violent and frightening. On 22 May he had returned home drunk and had started beating her, but she was saved by the intervention of their lodger, Mr Chamberlain. Two nights later Agnes Foote complained that her husband had thrown a number of glasses at her and forced her out of the house. She had called the police and had not returned to the property. Agnes Foote requested that her husband be made to put forward sureties as to his future conduct towards her. She also submitted an application under the Summary Jurisdiction (Married Women) Act of October 1895 with the following provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - she be no longer required to cohabit with Albert Henry Foote - she be granted custody of the children by her marriage to him until they reach the age of 16 - he pay her a weekly maintenance allowance of a sum to be determined by the court - he be responsible for the costs of the case. <p>At a hearing on 27 May Albert Henry Foote agreed to enter into a recognisance of £5 from himself plus an additional surety of £5 put forward by Henry Thomas Wickham of No 1 Tor Street, woodturner, to ensure that he would be of good conduct, particularly towards his wife, for at least the next 6 months.</p>	1897/073
Bisgood	John	Wills	John	31	05	1897	Obstructing the highway	O	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Wills of the parish of Wookey, butcher, with obstructing the highway in High Street on 14 May by parking a horse and cart there. Wills pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.</p>	1897/074

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Marshall	Harry	31	05	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Harry Marshall of St Thomas Street, painter, with using obscene language on Cathedral Green on 15 May. Marshall pleaded guilty to the offence but was discharged by the justices as it was his first offence.	1897/075
Bisgood	John	Trim	Ernest	31	05	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ernest Trim of High Street, brush maker, with using obscene language in High Street on 16 May. Trim pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 2/6d including costs. He was allowed until Saturday to pay.	1897/076
Bisgood	John	Harding	Tom	31	05	1897	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Tom Harding of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, dealer, with obstructing the highway in Tucker Street on 20 May by parking a horse and cart there. Harding pleaded not guilty and called upon William Spriggs of The Blue Bowl Inn, Southway, innkeeper, to testify on his behalf. PC Gilson claimed that he had seen Harding's horse and cart stood outside The Mermaid Inn for almost two hours, but Harding claimed that in that period he had been to Wookey and back. There appeared to be no definitive evidence that Harding's version was correct, but there was sufficient doubt in the minds of the justices that they dismissed the case.	1897/077
Cousins	George	Stainer Ayres	Frederick William	31	05	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	George Cousins complained that on 29 May Frederick Stainer aged 25 and William Ayres aged 19 had effected wilful damage on his property. They had pulled off a number of coping stones from a wall, broken two panes of glass in a window and thrown down a gate. Stainer and Ayres both pleaded guilty and were fined 10/- each. They were also required to pay the costs of repairing the damage meaning that each of them was to pay 18/9d or to be sent to prison for 14 days.	1897/078
Bisgood	John	Alexander Guppy Keniston	William George George	11	06	1897	Obstructing the footway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Alexander and George Guppy, both of Southover and George Keniston of South Street, all described as labourers, with wilfully blocking the footway in High Street on 27 May and forcing passers-by to walk in the roadway in order to get past them. The defendants pleaded guilty and were fined 1/- each including costs. All the fines were recorded as paid.	1897/079

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Bennett Russell	William Anthony	11	06	1897	Drunk on licensed premises	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Bennett of South Street and Anthony Russell of Market Place, both described as hauliers, with being drunk on licensed premises on 31 May. Both men were found to be drunk in The Angel Inn. At the hearing on 15 June Bennett did not appear, although Russell was present. Testimony was provided by PCs Gilson, West and Upham and by police serjeant Knight. In addition, there was testimony from Charles Drew of Mill Lane, labourer, and Joseph Knowing, lodger at The Angel Inn, both of whom had been drinking at the time the defendants were at the inn. There seemed to be general agreement that Bennett was very tipsy, but Russell less so. Sarah Norman, landlady, claimed that she had not served either of the defendants any drink because she had seen that they were drunk and had refused to serve them. She also stated that she had been trying to get them to leave but without success. After much testimony (see minutes of 15 June, case 1897/087), the justices fined Bennett 10/- including costs and Russell 5/- also including costs. Russell's fine was recorded as paid.	1897/080
Bisgood	John	Ball	John	11	06	1897	Drunk on licensed premises	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Ball of Mill Lane, labourer, with being drunk on licensed premises on 31 May. Ball was found to be drunk in The Angel Inn. Ball pleaded not guilty to the charge. At the hearing on 15 June testimony was received from the same individuals as in the case of Bennett and Russell (see case 1897/080). Police witnesses were adamant that Ball had been drunk but Drew and Knowing inclined more to the belief that, while Ball had had drink, he was, nevertheless, in a reasonable state. In the end the justices dismissed the case against Ball but required him to pay the costs of 2/6d. Ball was recorded as paying the costs.	1897/081

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Norman	Sarah	11	06	1897	Allowing drunkenness on licensed premises	L	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Sarah Norman of Broad Street, innkeeper, with allowing drunkenness on her licensed premises, The Angel Inn, on 31 May (see also cases 1897/080 and 1897/081). Sarah Norman, represented by Mr Roach, pleaded not guilty to the charge. She had recognised that Bennett and Russell were the worse for drink and had refused to serve them, and the police were unable to provide any evidence that the cups which they claimed were on the tables had actually been served to those individuals who were charged with being drunk. Sarah Norman also stated that she had tried to persuade those individuals to leave the premises but without success, while the police asserted that they should have been called in order to evict those who were drunk. The justices concluded that there was insufficient evidence on which to convict Sarah Norman. She was therefore discharged but was instructed to take steps to ensure that she maintained better control over her house.	1897/082
Bisgood	John	Miller	Frederick	11	06	1897	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Miller of Southover, labourer, with being drunk in the public place of Broad Street on 5 June. Miller pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1897/083

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Overseers of the poor		Pearce	Thomas	11	06	1897	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon for the Overseers of the Poor complained that Thomas Pearce of No 38 St Thomas Street had failed to pay the poor rate for a number of years. The arrears were listed as follows: - poor rate of 23 December 1890, amount owed 2/- - poor rate of 22 May 1891, amount owing 3/- - poor rate of 10 December 1891, amount owing 2/6d - poor rate of 7 May 1892, amount owing 2/6d - poor rate of 10 November 1892, amount owing 2/- - poor rate of 11 May 1893, amount owing 3/6d - poor rate of 26 October 1893, amount owing 3/- - poor rate of 17 May 1894, amount owing 3/6d - poor rate of 13 December 1894, amount owing 2/- - poor rate of 18 June 1895, amount owing 2/6d - poor rate of 16 November 1895, amount owing 2/6d - poor rate of 18 June 1896, amount owing 3/6d - poor rate of 28 November 1896, amount owing 3/-. The total amount outstanding was £1.15s.6d, plus costs of 2/6d making an overall total of £1.18s.0d.	1897/084
Overseers of the poor		Ham	Walter	11	06	1897	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon for the Overseers of the Poor complained that Walter Ham of No 10 Queen Street had not paid the poor rate set on 28 November 1896. Ham was recorded as owing 8/6d for the poor rate and a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 11/-. At the hearing on 15 June Ham promised to pay half of the outstanding debt on Saturday with the remaining half being paid on the following Saturday.	1897/085
Coles	Mrs			15	06	1897	Licence extension application	La	Mrs Coles of The King's Head applied for a one-hour extension of her alcohol licence. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: the application is only documented in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 15 June (see case 1897/087).	1897/086
Justices		Various		15	06	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 15 June 1897. All the cases heard, with the exception of a licence extension application, are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated in these entries. The major portion of the minutes is devoted to testimony in the cases against Bennett and Russell, Ball and Sarah Norman which all relate to the same set of incidents (see cases 1897/080, 1897/081 and 1897/082).	1897/087

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Say	Thomas	Parsons	George	15	06	1897	Assault	A	Thomas Say of Tucker Street complained that he had been unlawfully assaulted on 12 June by George Parsons of St John Street, farmer. Say stated that he had been near one of the railway crossings on Portway when he had encountered Parsons who was initially on the other side of the line. It appears that at an earlier time Parsons had accused Say of stealing some of his produce. The two had begun to argue and Say claimed that Parsons had then rushed at him, punched him in the stomach and knocked him down before jumping or falling on top of him. Say also stated that Mr Westmore had seen them on the ground together. The justices dismissed the case against Parsons.	1897/088
Rich	John	Charles	William	28	06	1897	Assault	A	John Rich of Mill Lane, labourer, complained that he had been assaulted on 28 June by William Charles of High Street, butcher. Neither Rich nor Charles appeared at the hearing so the case was dismissed.	1897/089
Justices		Various		12	07	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 July. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated in these entries.	1897/090
Police		Reddick	Robert	26	07	1897	Begging in the street	V	Robert Reddick, originally of Somerton, aged 70, was charged with begging in St Cuthbert Street on Saturday 24 July. Reddick pleaded guilty to the charge and was discharged by the justices.	1897/091

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Guardians of Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	31	07	1897	Absconding from the workhouse	Ab	<p>Thomas Henry Hucker was charged with absconding from the Wells Union workhouse. He had been admitted to the casual pauper ward on 29 July, but had escaped on 30 July, several days before he was entitled to leave the workhouse. Hucker had only been released from prison some 14 or 21 days earlier after serving another prison sentence for the same offence. He was sentenced to a further 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet for this latest offence.</p> <p>There was also a recommendation that he be closely supervised by the medical officer in prison since he was considered to be of unsound mind and might potentially cause some harm if not confined. He had a razor in his possession and it was removed as it was considered dangerous for him to have it. It was noted that he had a sister who was confined to the lunatic asylum and it was suggested that the prison medical officer should review Hucker with a view to transferring him to the lunatic asylum after his current prison sentence came to an end.</p>	1897/092
Bisgood	John	Lane	Harry	31	07	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Harry Lane of South Street, cabinet maker, with using obscene language in South Steet on 23 July. John Clarke of South Street, miller, was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. A note was also provided by Clarke setting out the words allegedly used by Lane. Clarke testified that he had been at home in South Street at around midnight when he heard a disturbance in the street. He opened a window to ask what was going on. Lane, who was in the road with several others, responded with a good deal of bad language. Lane pleaded not guilty but was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs, of which 7/- was noted as paid.</p>	1897/093
Bisgood	John	Baker	Frederick	31	07	1897	Drunk on licensed premises	D	<p>John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Baker of St Thomas Street with being unlawfully drunk on licensed premises, namely The Somerset Inn, on 10 July. At the hearing on 10 August Baker pleaded not guilty to the offence. PC Upham had found Baker in the bar of The Somerset Inn with Baker being clearly drunk. PC Upham noted that there were no cups on the tables near Baker so it was possible he had not been served drink by the landlord. Baker was fined 5/- with costs of 6/- to be paid on the following day.</p>	1897/094

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Hartley	Henry	31	07	1897	Furious riding	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Hartley of Vicars Close with furious riding of a bicycle in High Street on 30 July, thus endangering pedestrians and other road users. John Thorn was called as a witness for the prosecution. PC Upham had seen Hartley pedalling very quickly up High Street and into Sadler Street and was concerned because there were a lot of people about. Hartley very soon turned around and came back down into High Street even more quickly. PC Upham tried to stop Hartley but he sped by. Upham estimated that Hartley was travelling at 15 or 16 mph. Hartley was found guilty and was fined 5/- with costs of 12/- making a total of 17/-, this sum to be paid forthwith.	1897/095
Bisgood	John	Coles	Gilbert	07	08	1897	Furious driving	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Gilbert Coles of St Cuthbert Street, cab proprietor, with driving a hansom carriage at a furious pace in High Street on 4 August, thus endangering pedestrians and other road users. Frederick Biggs of Sadler Street was summoned to give evidence on behalf of the prosecution. The justices were also made aware of Coles' previous conviction for a similar offence in Shepton Mallet in 1892 when he was fined 5/- with costs of 17/-. PC Gilson stated that he had seen Coles driving at a furious rate down High Street and that there had nearly been a collision with Fredrick Biggs who was driving up Broad Street at a much more sedate pace. Coles had to pull up to avoid a collision and in doing so his horse and carriage skidded a considerable distance because he was driving too fast. PC Gilson also noted that he had received several complaints from residents of High Street that a number of vehicles were driving far too quickly along High Street and it was becoming dangerous. Coles pleaded not guilty but was found guilty of the offence and fined 5/- with costs of 12/-; the sum of 17/- was recorded as paid.	1897/096

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Stevens	John Pitts	07	08	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Pitts Stevens of South Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 31 July. Henry Lane of South Street was summoned as a witness for the prosecution. Police serjeant Furze found Stevens making a lot of noise with much bad language in South Street and saw him nearly lie down in the road. Stevens claimed that he was not drunk and was supported by Eliza Matthews, a neighbour, who said that he was not drunk nor using bad language. Stevens' wife also claimed that he was not drunk and that the noise was just Stevens and Henry Lane having a disagreement about putting a child to bed. Henry Lane disagreed, claiming that Stevens was drunk and had deliberately kicked his door causing some damage. Pitts Stevens was fined 10/- including costs to be paid by the following day.	1897/097
Bisgood	John	Hatcher	Alfred	07	08	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Alfred Hatcher of St Thomas Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 31 July. At the hearing on 10 August PC Upham testified that he had arrested Hatcher the offence. Hatcher pleaded guilty and was fined 10/- including costs to be paid by the next day.	1897/098
Justices		Various		10	08	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 August. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated in these entries.	1897/099
Bisgood	John	Tripp	Robert	21	08	1897	Selling adulterated milk	Wm	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Robert Tripp of The Cheddar Valley Inn, milk seller, with selling adulterated milk on 29 July. Tripp pleaded not guilty. PC Upham bought one pint of milk from Tripp and paid him the sum of 1½d. With Tripp's agreement and in his presence Upham split the milk into three separate containers, leaving one with Tripp, and took one sample to John Bisgood in order for it to be analysed. The analysis determined that the milk had been adulterated by the addition of 12% water. The justices had reservations about the analysis being carried out on such a small quantity and discharged the defendant but ordered him to pay the costs of the case.	1897/100

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Crandon	Charles	21	08	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Crandon of St Thomas Street with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 14 August. Crandon pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1897/101
Dell Dell	Arthur Charles Bendall Harry Bendall	Woolford	James	21	08	1897	Absentee employee	Ab	Arthur Charles Bendall Dell and Harry Bendall Dell, trading as Dell Brothers of Union Street, builders, complained that James Woolford, labourer and one of their employees, had absented himself from work without notice on 9 August. Woolford claimed that he had asked for leave but the brothers stated that they had offered him more money to work. When he did not turn up they had two masons ready to work, but no labourer to support them. The company claimed 10/6d in damages for Woolford's absence. Woolford was required to pay the sum of 10/6d plus 3/- in costs. The sum of 13/6d was recorded as paid.	1897/102
Bisgood	John	Wickham Wickham	Charles William	27	08	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Wickham and William Wickham, both of Queen Street, with using obscene language in Queen Street on 19 August. Charles Wickham accepted the charge and pleaded guilty, but William Wickham submitted a plea of not guilty. Charles Brown the younger of Portway, surveyor, was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution and he testified that both defendants were swearing, although he only recognised the voice of Charles Wickham. PC Upham also stated that he heard both defendants using bad language. Both defendants were found guilty and fined 5/- each plus costs amounting to 13/6d, all to be paid forthwith.. Each was therefore required to pay 11/9d and both defendants were recorded as having paid.	1897/103
Bisgood	John	Bartlett	George	27	08	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Bartlett of St Cuthbert Street, mason, with using obscene language in St Cuthbert Street on 21 August. George Cante of Wookey was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. George Bartlett pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs.	1897/104

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Baker	Frederick	27	08	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight charged Frederick Baker with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 26 August. Knight encountered Baker at around 8pm outside The Crown Inn where Baker was drunk and spoiling for a fight. Baker pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- plus costs of 3/6d, the total of 8/6d to be paid forthwith. Payment was recorded as received on 31 August.	1897/105
Police		Murphy	Joseph	27	08	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	Joseph Murphy was described as a casual pauper from the workhouse. He was charged with causing wilful damage to The Swan Inn with a value of 2/-. Murphy pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1897/106
Hayes	Thomas	Loxton	William	30	08	1897	Assault	A	Thomas Hayes of St Thomas Street, fishmonger's assistant, complained that on 28 August he had been assaulted by William Loxton of South Street, labourer. Eliza Parker of South Street and Louisa Drew of Mill Lane were called as witnesses for the plaintiff. At the hearing on 4 September Thomas Hayes testified that he had been walking home from his employment at Collins' stables in South Street when he saw Loxton throw his wife out into the street and lock the door. Hayes had helped her up out of the gutter, but then Loxton emerged from the side door and, after an exchange of words, rushed at Hayes and struck him in the ear with his fist. Louisa Drew and Eliza Parker confirmed Hayes' view of events with Eliza Parker having intervened to release Hayes from Loxton's grip. They suggested that Loxton was drunk (see also case 1897/108). Loxton was found guilty and bound over for 3 months in the sum of £5 to be of good behaviour, particularly towards his wife. In addition he was required to pay 5/- towards the costs of the case which were recorded as £1.	1897/107

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Loxton	William	31	08	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Loxton of South Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 28 August. Thomas Hayes of St Thomas Street, fishmonger's assistant, was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution (see also case 1897/107). Police serjeant Furze had seen Loxton in High Street when he was drinking and then he was later called to a disturbance outside Loxton's house involving an altercation between Loxton and his wife. At this point Furze told Loxton that he was drunk and needed to go indoors, and, after a little while, Loxton did so. Thomas Hayes testified that when Loxton threw his wife out onto the street he was struggling to stand upright and was incapable of speaking properly because he was so drunk. Loxton was ordered to pay the costs of the case of 9/6d and was given until Saturday to make the payment.	1897/108
Bisgood	John	Barr	William	31	08	1897	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Barr of Yarley Hill in the parish of Wookey, hawker, with being drunk in the public highway, namely High Street, on 21 August. Barr was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs or to serve 14 days in prison.	1897/109
Guardians of Wells Union		Fleming	William	06	09	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	William Fleming aged 61, an ex-soldier who had seen service in the Crimea and in India at the time of the Indian Mutiny, was admitted to the Wells Union as a casual pauper on the preceding Friday evening (4 September). On the following morning he was found to have torn up various elements of his clothing. He may also have started a fire in the ward. He was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: the handwriting is very poor and difficult to decipher.	1897/110

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Sweet	Robert	Barnard	William	11	09	1897	Assault	A	<p>Robert Sweet of Southover, cattle dealer, complained that on 11 September he had been unlawfully assaulted by William Barnard of High Street, butcher. Sweet had seen Barnard and someone called Gould in the street apparently with coats off and preparing to fight. He and his companion, (Anthony?) Russell, took Gould away from the scene, but then Sweet claimed that Barnard had come up behind him and struck him, knocking him to the ground. Robert Herring of High Street was summoned as a witness for the plaintiff, while Thomas James and Thomas Lambert provided testimony for the defendant. William Barnard claimed that he had been provoked but pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined £1 with costs of 16/-; these sums were recorded as paid.</p> <p>Note: the witness statements are not particularly coherent and the minutes of the petty sessions sitting are both patchy and difficult to decipher. It is also not specifically stated as to whether the fine of £1 includes the costs of 16/-, but this may be the case as there is a note which suggests that the charge of assault was 'not proven'. If the case was not proven then a fine of £1 plus costs would seem excessive.</p>	1897/111
Elliott	William	Sheppard Fry	Robert Thomas	13	09	1897	Disturbing the peace	Dp	<p>William Elliott of Tor Street complained that Robert Sheppard of St Thomas Street and Thomas Fry of Tor Street had been disturbing the peace of the neighbourhood on 11 September by deliberately knocking on doors/ringing doorbells and then running away. The hearing was initially scheduled for the petty sessions sitting of 14 September at which both boys pleaded guilty. The case against Fry was dismissed while that against Sheppard was adjourned until November when there would be a further report on his conduct. At the hearing on 16 November the case against Robert Sheppard for ringing doorbells was dismissed with a caution (see cases 1897/115 and 1897/145 for details of the testimony involved).</p>	1897/112

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John			14	09	1897	Annual report on licensed houses	*	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, delivered his annual report on the licensed houses of Wells. He noted that the number of licensed houses was unchanged from the previous year comprising 21 fully licensed houses, 13 beer houses, one off-licence and two licensed grocers, a total of 37. During the year two licensed persons were prosecuted for permitting drunkenness on their premises with one being convicted and fined and the case against the other being dismissed. 25 individuals were summoned for drunkenness with 18 convictions, while the numbers for the previous year were 31 and 29 respectively. Overall satisfaction was expressed with the operation of the licensed houses and there would be no objections to the renewal of the licences.	1897/113
Justices				14	09	1897	Appointment of officers to exercise judicial authority	*	Three names of responsible officers were to be put forward to the Lord Chancellor as being those entitled to exercise the powers conferred on a judicial authority. Those names were shown as the Mayor, Dr Levitt and Mr Everett.	1897/114
Justices		Various		14	09	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 September. All cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated in those entries.	1897/115
Knight Upham	James William	Hunnam Hogg	William Thomas	16	09	1897	Desertion of military unit	M	Police serjeant Knight and PC Upham apprehended William Hunnam and Thomas Hogg in Priory Road on 15 September where they were discovered concealed in a covered brewer's waggon. They were both deserters from the 2nd battalion of the Northumberland Fusiliers and were believed to have deserted when they were based in Portland. William Hunnam was described as being 25 years of age, 5' 5½" in height, with a dark complexion, dark brown hair and brown eyes. He had two vaccination marks on his left arm and was wearing military uniform. Thomas Hogg was described as being 20 years of age, 5' 4½" in height, with a dark complexion, dark brown hair and dark brown eyes. He had 6 vaccination marks on his left arm and was wearing military uniform. The two men were remanded in custody pending transfer to the military authorities.	1897/116

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bendall	James	Russell	Anthony	30	09	1897	Refusal to quit licensed premises	L	James Bendall of The Queen's Head Inn in High Street, innkeeper, complained that on 16 September Anthony Russell of The Royal Oak Inn in the Market Place, labourer, had been guilty of disorderly behaviour in his inn, but refused to leave the premises when requested to do so by Elizabeth Bendall, wife of the landlord, thus placing him in breach of the Licensing Act. George House of South Street, labourer, was called to give evidence for the plaintiff. He confirmed that Russell was disorderly and had used bad language. Russell was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs (although the costs alone were recorded as being 13/-). The sum of 10/- was recorded as paid.	1897/117
Bisgood	John	Hawkins	Edward	30	09	1897	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edward Hawkins of St Thomas Street, butcher, with causing an obstruction in St Thomas Street on 24 September by leaving a horse and cart on the street. Hawkins pleaded guilty to the charge but it transpired that it had only been a cart that had been left on the street and, apparently as a result, the case against him was dismissed.	1897/118
Bisgood	John	Rich	John	30	09	1897	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Rich of Green Ore, Priddy, labourer, with being drunk on a public highway, namely High Street, on 25 September. Rich pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs, the fine to be paid by 4pm that day; the fine was recorded as paid.	1897/119
Bisgood	John	White	Albert	30	09	1897	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Albert White of Harter's Hill in the parish of Coxley, dealer, with causing an obstruction in Queen Street on 27 September by leaving a horse and cart there. White attended the hearing and pleaded guilty to the charge. He was fined 2/6d including costs and this sum was recorded as paid.	1897/120
Bisgood	John	Main	Matthew	06	10	1897	Drunkenness		John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Matthew Main of the Out Parish of St Cuthbert with being drunk on a public highway, namely High Street, on 2 October. Main was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs.	1897/121

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Salmon	Henry L	Various		06	10	1897	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor reported that various individuals had failed to pay the poor rate set on 5 June 1897. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1897/122
Salmon	Henry L	Ham	Walter	06	10	1897	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Walter Ham of No 10 Queen Street was recorded as owing 11/4d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 13/10d. An instruction was given for a distress order to be issued.	1897/122a
Salmon	Henry L	Barber	James	06	10	1897	Non-payment of poor rate	N	James Barber of No 19 Southover was recorded as owing 10/4d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 12/10d. James Barber's wife appeared at the hearing and explained that her husband needed to support her and 6 children and they were therefore very poor. James Barber was excused from payment of the poor rate.	1897/122b
Salmon	Henry L	Weaver	Edward	06	10	1897	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Edward Weaver of No 15 Union Street was recorded as owing £2.6s.0d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £2.8s.6d.	1897/122c
Salmon	Henry L	Weaver	James	06	10	1897	Non-payment of poor rate	N	James Weaver of Wookey Hole Lane was recorded as owing 12/8d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 15/2d.	1897/122d
Salmon	Henry L	Yates	Robert	06	10	1897	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Robert Yates, formerly of Ethel Street, but now of Ferndean, Wilton Road, Salisbury, was recorded as owing 8/ for the poor rate plus a further 3/6d for costs making a total of 11/6d.	1897/122e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1897/123

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Young	Harry	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Harry Young of Tucker Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Henry Young. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 September Henry Young, aged 11, had made only 31 attendances while the school was open for 45 attendances. Henry Young was recorded as working towards standard IV. Harry Young's wife attended the hearing on 12 October when the case was adjourned for one month. At the adjourned hearing on 16 November Harry Young's wife attended. Henry had succeeded in making a full attendance over the last month and the case against his father was dismissed.	1897/123a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Keniston	Henry	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Keniston of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Frederick Keniston. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 September Frederick Keniston, aged 11, had made only 32 attendances while the school was open for 45 attendances. Frederick Keniston was recorded as working towards standard II. At the hearing on 12 October the case was adjourned for one month. At the adjourned hearing on 16 November Frederick Keniston was recorded as having good attendance over the most recent period and the case was dismissed.	1897/123b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, William Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 4 October William Vincent, aged 11, had made only 36 attendances while the school was open for 50 attendances. William Vincent was recorded as working towards standard I. Joseph Vincent's wife appeared at the hearing on 12 October when the case was adjourned for one month. Vincent was instructed to bring his son, William, to appear before the justices at the next hearing. Although there is an entry in the minutes of 16 November with the name of Louisa Brown and of William Vincent, there is no further information about the outcome. Note: the document instructing William Vincent to be brought to the hearing in November was addressed to Louisa Brown of Union Street as the parent of the child.	1897/123c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Vincent	Joseph	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph Vincent of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Bertie Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 30 September Bertie Vincent, aged 8, had made only 34 attendances while the school was open for 45 attendances. Bertie Vincent was recorded as working towards standard I. Joseph Vincent's wife attended the hearing on 12 October when the case was adjourned for one month. Vincent was instructed to bring his son, Bertie, to appear before the justices at the next hearing. Although there is an entry in the minutes of 16 November referring to Louisa Brown and Bertie Vincent, there is no information on the outcome of the case. Note: the document instructing Bertie Vincent to be brought to the hearing in November was addressed to Louisa Brown of Union Street as the parent of the child.	1897/123d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bowell	Sydenham	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Sydenham Bowell of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Frank Bowell. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 24 September Frank Bowell, aged 10, had made only 27 attendances while the school was open for 38 attendances. Frank Bowell was recorded as working towards standard I. Bowell's wife attended the hearing on 12 October when the case was adjourned for one month. At the adjourned hearing on 16 November Frank Bowell was recorded as having a good attendance over the most recent period and the case against his father was dismissed.	1897/123e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Lane	Henry	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Lane of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Rose Lane. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 1 October Rose Lane, aged 9, had made only 18 attendances while the school was open for 48 attendances. Rose Lane was recorded as having reached standard II. Henry Lane's wife attended the hearing on 12 October when the case was adjourned for one month to allow Lane to provide a medical certificate for the child. At the hearing on 16 November the case against Henry Lane was dismissed.	1897/123f

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Foot	Albert Henry	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Henry Foot of Silver Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Emily Foot. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 1 October Emily Foot, aged 11, had made only 10 attendances while the school was open for 48 attendances. Emily Foot was recorded as having reached standard V. At the hearing on 12 October Albert Foot was fined 2/6d.	1897/123g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Foot	Albert Henry	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Henry Foot of Silver Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Lily Foot. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 1 October Lily Foot, aged 10, had made only 35 attendances while the school was open for 48 attendances. Lily Foot was recorded as having reached standard II. At the hearing on 12 October the case against Albert Foot was dismissed.	1897/123h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 1 October Jane White, aged 11, had made only 29 attendances while the school was open for 48 attendances. Jane White was recorded as having reached standard I. At the hearing on 12 October Joseph White was fined 1/3d.	1897/123i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Kate White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 1 October Kate White, aged 9, had made only 25 attendances while the school was open for 48 attendances. Jane White was recorded as having reached standard II. At the hearing on 12 October Joseph White was fined 1/3d.	1897/123j

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Alfred Edwards. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 1 October Alfred Edwards, aged 11, had made only 11 attendances while the school was open for 40 attendances. Alfred Edwards was recorded as having reached standard III. At the hearing on 12 October George Edwards' wife attended and the case was adjourned for one month to see if Alfred's attendance improved. Edwards was also instructed to bring Alfred before the justices at the next hearing. Although there is an entry in the minutes of 16 November with the name of George Edwards no information on the outcome of the case is provided.	1897/123k
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Sheppard	Robert	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Robert Sheppard of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Robert Sheppard the younger. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 1 October Robert Sheppard the younger, aged 11, had made only 23 attendances while the school was open for 40 attendances. Robert Sheppard the younger was recorded as having reached standard III. At the hearing on 12 October Robert Sheppard the elder appeared and the case was adjourned for one month. Sheppard was instructed to bring his son, Robert, before the justices at the next hearing.	1897/123l
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Sheppard	Robert	06	10	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Robert Sheppard of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Frederick Sheppard. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 1 October Frederick Sheppard, aged 9, had made only 30 attendances while the school was open for 40 attendances. Frederick Sheppard was recorded as having reached standard III. At the hearing on 12 October Robert Sheppard appeared and the case was adjourned for one month. Sheppard was instructed to bring his son, Frederick, before the justices at the next hearing.	1897/123m

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		07	10	1897	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, reported that various individuals had failed to pay the general district rate set on 5 April 1897. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1897/124
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	07	10	1897	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Henry Oxley of Priest Row was recorded as owing 8/4d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs. Oxley did not appear at the hearing on 12 October and was given until 16 October to discharge the outstanding debt. In the event of his failing to do so, a distress order would be issued to recover the balance still unpaid.	1897/124a
Jenkins	William Henry	Ford	William G	07	10	1897	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William G Ford of Union Street was recorded as owing 5/6d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 8/-. Ford did not appear at the hearing on 12 October, although his wife did so. Ford was to pay 2/6d within a fortnight and was granted until 12 November to discharge the debt. In the event of his failing to do so, a distress order was to be issued to recover the outstanding balance.	1897/124b
Jenkins	William Henry	Ham	Walter	07	10	1897	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Walter Han of No 7 Northload Street, Glastonbury, was recorded as owing 8/2d for the general district rate plus a further 3/6d for costs making a total of 11/8d. Ham did not appear at the hearing on 12 October and was given until 16 October to discharge the outstanding debt. In the event of his failing to do so, a distress order would be issued to recover the balance still unpaid.	1897/124c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Milkins	Mary	Bragg	?	12	10	1897	Maintenance order	Mo	Mary Milkins had apparently given birth to an illegitimate child by Bragg in December 1896. They had lived together for 11 months and she claimed he had promised to marry her. Bragg had admitted paternity and offered to pay 1/6d per week to support the child, even though, according to the evidence of R M Fear, relieving officer, Bragg had become an inmate of the workhouse, having been unable to maintain his house and having sold the furniture, he had become homeless. Bragg was ordered to pay Mary Milkins 1/6d per week from that point and also to pay within 21 days the sum of 8/6d to cover the costs of the case. Note: the only information regarding this case is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 October. The minutes are not clear and hard to decipher, in particular the references to a wife who could not get on and had left. There is also reference to a maintenance order granted on 26 January 1897 but there is no petty sessions documentation to this effect.	1897/125
Justices		Various		12	10	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 October. For the most part all the cases heard are shown in earlier entries and relevant information from the minutes incorporated in these entries. There is an exception in the case of Mary Milkins v Bragg (forename not given), see case 1897/125 where the minutes represent the only documentation of the case..	1897/126
Police		Loxton	Sarah Ann	15	10	1897	Theft of pig net	T	Sarah Ann Loxton was charged with the theft of a pig net belonging to W Barnard. The estimated value of the net was 2/6d and the date of the offence was put at about 2 October. Sarah Ann Loxton was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1897/127
Police		Jackson	John	18	10	1897	Begging in the street	V	John Jackson, recorded as being from Boston, was charged with begging in Chamberlain Street on 17 October. At the time of his arrest he had 1/3d in cash. Jackson was found guilty and sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: the document contains a reference to The Railway Tavern but it is not clear whether or not Jackson was actually staying there, drinking there or something else.	1897/128

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Walker	T W			26	10	1897	Licence extension application	La	T W Walker of The Sun Inn applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence in order to host the Foresters' dinner on 27 October. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1897/129
Police		Milton	Elizabeth	27	10	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	Elizabeth Milton, said to be from Bristol, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Princes Street on 26 October. She was found guilty and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1897/130
Buck	Percy Carter	Russ	Alfred Edward	30	10	1897	Wilful damage	Ws	Percy Carter Buck of North Liberty, cathedral organist, complained that Alfred Edward Russ of New Street had inflicted wilful damage on a tree in the yard forming part of the property of the cathedral organist on 20 October. The value of the damage caused was assessed as being one pound. The tree in question was reportedly located in an inclosure which apparently was part of the property held by the cathedral organist. There was a hole in the wall of the inclosure leading to the property occupied by the Russ family and it was said that schoolchildren going to the Cathedral School would use the inclosure as a short cut. The tree was described as a fir tree which was dead and had been so for some time. On 20 October Buck was told by his wife, Elizabeth Buck, that someone was cutting branches off the tree. When he went to investigate he saw the defendant hastily come down a ladder that had been propped against the tree and run off through the gap in the wall back to the house of his father, Alfred George Russ. The justices concluded that there had been some doubt until very recently about the extent of the inclosure, that Alfred George Russ had been allowed to build a greenhouse in the area in 1889, that children had used the shortcut across the inclosure for years and that therefore the ownership/responsibility may have been uncertain. They decided to dismiss the case and order each side to pay their own costs.	1897/131

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Woolford Stevens Rogers	Emma Susan Mabel	30	10	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Emma Woolford, Susan Stevens and Mabel Rogers, all of Southover, with using obscene language in Southover on 18 October. Woolford and Rogers appeared in person at the hearing on 16 November, while Stevens was represented by her husband. On the basis of the testimony from PC Upham who had seen and heard the three defendants in a public thoroughfare, plus guilty pleas from Woolford and Rogers, all three defendants were each fined 5/- including costs and given until Monday to pay.	1897/132
Bisgood	John	Clarke	Richard	30	10	1897	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Richard Clarke of Henton, farmer, with being drunk in Chamberlain Street on 22 October. PC Upham stated that he had seen Clarke staggering around in Chamberlain Street at around 11pm. Clarke said that he was trying to get to The Mermaid to meet someone and went off up New Street before returning and admitting to Upham that he did not know where he was. Clarke was also seen by Alfred Edward Russ at the top of Sadler Street and Russ testified that he thought that Clarke was badly drunk. Clarke pleaded not guilty to the charge but was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs.	1897/133
Bisgood	John	Ashton	Simon	30	10	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Simon Ashton of Southover, plasterer, with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 23 October. PC Upham testified that he had seen Simon Ashton go into The Full Moon at around 8.10pm. He thought that Ashton was drunk and went in to advise the landlady not to serve him any drink. When PC Upham left the inn, Ashton followed him down the street shouting and cursing. Ashton pleaded not guilty to the charge but was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. Note: letter to justices from C Bray stating that Ashton had been working in Polsham until 4pm and had then gone up to Wells by train.	1897/134

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Bown Barber	Ernest William	30	10	1897	Setting off fireworks	Dp	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ernest Bown and William Barber, both of Southover, with setting off fireworks in Southover on 23 October, thus creating a disturbance of the peace. Bown pleaded guilty but Barber submitted a plea of not guilty. The case against both defendants appears to have been dismissed, even though there had been testimony from PC Upham that he had seen them setting off fireworks and had actually collared Barber at the scene.	1897/135
Bisgood	John	Munday	Alfred	30	10	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Alfred Munday of Southover, hawker, with being drunk and disorderly in Burcot Road on 28 October. Munday appeared at the hearing on 16 November and pleaded guilty to the charge. He was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1897/136
Roach	Emma	Roach	William George	09	11	1897	Assault	A	<p>Emma Roach of Southover, wife of William George Roach, complained that on 8 November she had been violently assaulted by her husband. He had unexpectedly come home at around 9.45pm one evening when for the last few weeks he had been travelling around searching for employment and when he was in Wells he had been staying at his mother's house. Emma Roach had been in bed, had got dressed and come to the door when her husband returned. When she opened the door he struck her in the face with his fist. Emma Roach managed to get outside and go to Serena Brock, a neighbour, for help. She then sought assistance from her mother and sister but was unwilling to go back to Roach's house because he was drunk and very violent. Emma Roach stated that her husband was a good man until he had drink and then he became frighteningly violent.</p> <p>At a hearing on 10 November the justices convicted William George Roach of an aggravated assault upon his wife. The justices made the following decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emma Roach should no longer be required to cohabit with her husband - legal custody of the children of the marriage, namely William Norman Roach, Violet Roach, Percival Roach and Leslie Roach, should be committed to Emma Roach 	1897/137

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
									<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - William George Roach should pay his wife 9/- per week with the first payment to be made on 17 November and should continue making these payments every week until the order was altered - William George Roach should pay the sum of 11/- for the costs of the case and was given one month in which to pay this sum. <p>Note: Roach was a sawyer by trade and when fully employed would earn around 18/- per week, but when trade was slack, then he would struggle to earn 6/-.</p>	
Bisgood	John	Hawkins	Alice	11	11	1897	Setting off fireworks	Dp	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Alice Hawkins of Priest Row with unlawfully setting off fireworks in St John Street on 5 November. Alice Hawkins was found guilty and ordered to pay the costs of the case of 3/6d.	1897/138
Bisgood	John	Bedford	Mary	11	11	1897	Setting off fireworks	Dp	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mary Bedford of South Street, mill hand, with unlawfully setting off fireworks in High Street on 5 November. Mary Bedford pleaded guilty to the charge, admitting that she had thrown a cracker into the middle of the road. She was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1897/139
Bisgood	John	Loxton	Albert	11	11	1897	Setting off fireworks	Dp	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Albert Loxton of Sadler Street, with unlawfully setting off fireworks in High Street on 5 November. Loxton pleaded guilty to the charge, but the case against him was dismissed with a caution.	1897/140
Guardians of Wells Union		Hucker	Thomas Henry	11	11	1897	Absconding from the workhouse	Ab	Thomas Henry Hucker was charged with absconding from the casual ward in the Wells Union workhouse on 10 November. In the last few days Hucker had come to the workhouse most recently from Frome and before that he had come from Winchester. Hucker had a number of previous convictions for the same offence (a list of 18 previous convictions commencing in 1889 is included) and had been described as a rogue and vagabond. Hucker was sentenced to a further 3 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1897/141

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Lewis	Gomer	15	11	1897	Keeping a dog without a licence	DI	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Gomer Lewis of No 4 Greenbank Villa, assurance company agent, with keeping a dog without a valid licence. Lewis wrote to the justices to explain that as he had now moved to Bristol he would be unable to attend the hearing. He admitted the offence but stated that he had not been trying to avoid the licence fee, but had in fact been trying to get rid of the dog and had actually succeeded in doing so in the same week that he received the summons. However, he was noted as having owned the dog for nearly 12 months. He requested that the justices deal leniently with him, given the circumstances of the case. Lewis was found guilty and fined 10/- plus costs of 6/-.	1897/142
George	Mr			16	11	1897	Licence extension application	La	Mr George applied for an extension to his alcohol licence in order to host a concert club dinner on 17 November. The application was granted. Note: this case is documented only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 16 November (see case 1897/145).	1897/143
Maggs	W			16	11	1897	Licence application	La	W Maggs applied for a licence to rent a room in High Street for two weeks for music and dancing. The application was granted. Note: this case is documented only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 16 November (see case 1897/145).	1897/144
Justices		Various		16	11	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 16 November. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries, except for the licence applications from George and Maggs (see case 1897/143 and 1897/144).	1897/145

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Norman	Sarah Ann	Mundy	Alfred	19	11	1897	Refusing to quit licensed premises	L	Sarah Ann Norman of Broad Street, landlady of The Angel Inn, complained that Alfred Mundy of Southover had become drunken and violent while on her premises on 13 November. She requested that he leave but he refused to do so, thus placing himself in breach of the Licensing Act. Amelia Watts, wife of Frank Watts of Silver Street, was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. Further evidence was provided by Sam Morgan who had assisted Sarah Ann Norman to deal with Mundy, and Albert White, labourer. All were agreed that Mundy was drunk, was making a lot of noise and was using bad language. Sarah Ann Norman had got Mundy out in the street but he had returned, grabbed her head as she stood at the door to prevent him entering and smacked her head several times against the doorframe. Alfred Mundy was fined 10/- plus costs of 19/- making a total of £1.9s.0d.	1897/146
Bennett	W J			24	11	1897	Licence extension application	La	W J Bennett applied for a one-hour extension of his alcohol licence for that evening in order to host a Druids' dinner. His application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1897/147
Bendall	W	Baker	Frederick	29	11	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	William Bendall, landlord of The Queen's Head, complained that Frederick Baker had deliberately broken 3 panes of glass at his inn with a value of 6/-. Baker had been drinking at the inn but had become very excitable and started throwing chairs about. Bendall had put him out, but Baker returned a few minutes later. Elizabeth Bendall, wife of William Bendall, had refused Baker admittance and soon after there was the sound of breaking glass. Baker was not seen to break the glass but he admitted that he had done so 'mostly by accident'. Baker was fined £1 and was also required to pay costs of 4/6d and a further 6/- to repair the damage, a total of £1.10s.6d. In the event of default Baker would serve one calendar month in prison.	1897/148

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Furze	John	Baker	Frederick	29	11	1897	Assault on police officer	A	Police serjeant Furze charged Frederick Baker of Southover with assaulting a police officer. After Baker had broken the panes of glass at The Queen's Head (see case 1897/148), the police were called but Baker had gone before they arrived. PC Nicholls went to Hammond's house in Southover where Baker was lodging in order to take him to the police station and charge him. However, Baker had become violent and struggled and kicked all the way, kicking Nicholls repeatedly and striking Furze in the face. Baker pleaded guilty and was fined £2 plus costs of 4/6d. In the event of default Baker would serve one calendar month in prison.	1897/149
Bisgood	John	Batey	George	30	11	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Batey of St Cuthbert Street, labourer, with using obscene language at the Wells Athletic Ground on 20 November. PC Upham had gone to the Athletic Ground and cautioned Batey who continued to use bad language for some time afterwards. Batey was considered to be the worse for liquor. Despite the evidence against him, Batey pleaded not guilty but was found guilty and fined 2/6d including costs.	1897/150
Bisgood	John	Loxton Matthews	Charles William	01	12	1897	Obstructing the police in the execution of their duty	Ob	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Loxton of Southover and William Matthews of East Wells, both described as labourers, with obstructing police serjeant John Furze in the execution of his duty on 27 November. Both men pleaded guilty but the case against them was subsequently withdrawn.	1897/151
Bisgood	John	Vile	Charles	01	12	1897	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Vile of Southover, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in St John Street on 27 November. Police serjeant Furze had come across Vile at around 11.15pm. He was evidently drunk and some women were trying to get him home. Furze advised Vile to go home but Vile kept wanting to fight and was using bad language. Eventually, he got home and went inside. The case against Charles Vile was dismissed.	1897/152
Bisgood	John	Ayres	Arthur	01	12	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Arthur Ayres of Southover, labourer, with using obscene language in Southover on 27 November. Ayres pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1897/153

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Gavin	Henry	01	12	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Gavin of Southover, labourer, with using obscene language in Southover on 27 November. Gavin pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1897/154
Welchman	P L			06	12	1897	Licence extension application	La	P L Welchman applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence on account of the fair. This would also mean that horses would need to be accommodated in his yard. The extension was granted for half an hour on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1897/155
Rice	Mrs			06	12	1897	Licence extension application	La	Mrs Rice applied for a half-hour extension of her alcohol licence. The application was refused.	1897/156
Bisgood	John	Maidment	Arthur	08	12	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Arthur Maidment of St John Street, butcher, with using obscene language in St John Street on 5 December. Sidney Truman of St John Street was called to give evidence for the prosecution. Maidment did not appear at the hearing on 14 December and a warrant for his arrest was issued. Maidment was then brought before the justices on the following day (15 December) when he pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 2/- plus costs of 12/- making a total of 14/-; the justices ordered this sum to be paid by 4pm that afternoon.	1897/157
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		08	12	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries. Note: the hearings on these cases were all adjourned from 14 December and took place on 8 February 1898; the results of the hearing are noted in the entries below but the minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 8 February are documented in case 1898/024).	1897/158

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hatcher	Alfred	08	12	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred Hatcher of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Alfred Hatcher the younger. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 3 December Alfred Hatcher the younger, aged 11, had made only 35 attendances while the school was open for 50 attendances. Alfred Hatcher the younger was recorded as having reached standard II. The hearing was initially scheduled for 14 December but was adjourned until 8 February 1898. At the hearing on that date Alfred Hatcher the elder was discharged.	1897/158a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Brown	Louisa	08	12	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Louisa Brown of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, William Vincent. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 3 December William Vincent, aged 11, had made only 24 attendances while the school was open for 40 attendances. William Vincent was recorded as having reached standard I. The hearing was initially scheduled for 14 December but was adjourned until 8 February 1898. At the hearing on that date Louisa Brown was fined 2/6d.	1897/158b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Batey	George	08	12	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Batey of St Cuthbert Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane Batey. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 3 December Jane Batey, aged 10, had made only 21 attendances while the school was open for 40 attendances. Jane Batey was recorded as having reached standard III. The hearing was initially scheduled for 14 December but was adjourned until 8 February 1898. At the hearing on that date George Batey's wife attended and reported that the child had now been transferred to the Roman Catholic School. George Batey was discharged.	1897/158c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Foot	Albert Henry	08	12	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Henry Foot of Silver Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Emily Foot. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 3 December Emily Foot, aged 12, had made only 24 attendances while the school was open for 40 attendances. Emily Foot was recorded as having reached standard V. The hearing was initially scheduled for 14 December but was adjourned until 8 February 1898. At the hearing on that date Albert Henry Foot was fined 5/-.	1897/158d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	08	12	1897	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 3 December Jane White, aged 12, had made no attendances while the school was open for 40 attendances. Jane White was recorded as having reached standard I. The hearing was initially scheduled for 14 December but was adjourned until 8 February 1898. At the hearing on that date Joseph White's wife attended and promised that her daughter would attend school regularly. Jane White's attendance record was noted as having been improved and the case was adjourned for a further month to see if the improvement continued.	1897/158e
Police		Turner	John	09	12	1897	Drunkenness	D	John Turner was charged with being drunk in South Street on 2 December. Turner pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour. Turner was recorded as going to gaol.	1897/159
Phipps	Elizabeth	Phipps	Frederick	10	12	1897	Assault	A	Lizzie Phipps complained that her husband, Frederick Phipps of Alcester, Warwickshire, but now recorded as being of the cattle market in Wells, had unlawfully assaulted and beaten her on 9 December.	1897/160
Norton	R			14	12	1897	Licence transfer application	La	R Norton applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Mitre. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: the information on this application is only recorded in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 14 December (see case 1897/162). However, on 8 February 1898 an application was made for a permanent transfer of the alcohol licence and this application includes the application for the temporary transfer (see case 1898/022).	1897/161

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		14	12	1897	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 December. With the exception of the licence transfer application from Mr Norton (see case 1897/161) all the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant information from the minutes is incorporated in those entries.	1897/162
Knight	James	Smith Smith	John Frances	20	12	1897	Drunk and disorderly Assault Wilful damage	D A Wd	On 18 December PC Upham went to Evans' lodging house to arrest John Smith and Frances Smith for being drunk and disorderly. He and police serjeant Knight had difficulty in effecting the arrest and getting the couple to the police station because they resisted all the way from the Glastonbury Road and made such a noise, using extremely bad language, that they attracted a large crowd. When put into the cells, they kicked the doors and shouted causing a crowd to collect around the police station for two hours. Knight reported that in trying to get Frances Smith into the cells she had struck him and tried to bite. Once in the cells she had refused to take off her boots and used her feet to smash a pane of plate glass. John Smith was found guilty on the charge of being drunk and disorderly and sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Frances Smith was found guilty of the same offence and given a sentence of 14 days in prison. In addition, she was also found guilty of assaulting a police officer and causing wilful damage for which she was sentenced to 14 days and 7 days in prison respectively.	1897/163
Knight	James	Smith Smith	William Eli	20	12	1897	Using obscene language Assault	Pr A	Police serjeant Knight and PC Upham apprehended William Smith and Eli Smith in Southover on 18 December on a charge of using obscene language. Both defendants attempted to resist arrest and William Smith continued to cause problems at the police station by savagely kicking the door of his cell. Eli Smith was quiet after being put in a cell. Police serjeant Knight had his fingers bitten in the course of the arrest. William Smith was found guilty of using obscene language and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with a further 14 days for assaulting a police officer. Eli Smith was sentenced to 7 days in prison for using obscene language and a further 7 days for resisting arrest.	1897/164
Police		Francis	John	29	12	1897	Sleeping rough	V	John Francis was found to be sleeping outside on 26 December. He could provide no evidence that he had the necessary means to support himself. Francis was discharged by the justices.	1897/165

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Morgan	Ellen	29	12	1897	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant Knight reported that Ellen Morgan had come to the police in the Market Place at around 11.15pm and asked for lodging for the night. She was refused but came back on two further occasions with the same request. When she was refused again, she used extremely bad language. She was discharged by the justices. Note: the surname of the defendant is very unclear and could be interpreted in a number of different ways. Note: document in very delicate and fragile condition.	1897/166
Guardians of Wells Union		Adams	John	31	12	1897	Wilful damage	Wd	John Adams aged 22 had been admitted to the Wells Union as a casual pauper on Wednesday evening. Next morning it was discovered that he had shredded his trousers and cut up his boots with a knife. He was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: document in very delicate and fragile condition.	1897/167

1898

Bisgood	John	Tidball Hawkins	Walter William	07	01	1898	Affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Walter Tidball of Southover and William Hawkins of South Street, both labourers, with making an affray in High Street on 22 December 1897. Police serjeant Knight found a large crowd at the top of Broad Street where Tidball and Hawkins were fighting. Several blows were struck and one of them was knocked down into the gutter. Knight was unable to determine who had struck the first blow. Both men pleaded guilty to the charge and were ordered to pay 5/- each.	1898/001
Bisgood	John	Ridley	John	07	01	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Ridley of Tucker Street, mill hand, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 26 December 1897. Ridley was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs.	1898/002
Bisgood	John	White	Kate	07	01	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Kate White of St Thomas Street, wife of Joseph White, with using obscene language in Broad Street on 27 December 1897. Kate White was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs (although the costs alone were recorded as 6/-). She was given 14 days within which to pay.	1898/003

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Norman	Sarah Ann	White	Kate	07	01	1898	Refusing to quit licensed premises	L	Sarah Ann Norman, landlady of The Angel Inn in Broad Street, complained that Kate White of St Thomas Street, wife of Joseph White, labourer, had become quarrelsome and disorderly in her establishment on 27 December 1897. As a result, Sarah Ann Norman asked Kate White to leave the inn, but Kate White refused, thereby placing herself in breach of the Licensing Act. Mary Herridge of South Street, wife of John Herridge, was summoned to give evidence for the plaintiff. She confirmed that Kate White had kicked up a fuss and had refused to leave the premises when asked to do so by the landlady. Kate White submitted a plea of not guilty but was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs (although the costs alone were recorded as 12/-). She was given 14 days within which to pay.	1898/004
Bisgood	John	Boyce	William	07	01	1898	Drunkenness	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Boyce of Tor Street, labourer, with being drunk in St Andrew Street on 27 December 1897. PC Upham had found Boyce clinging to the railing in St Andrew Street and unable to walk because he was so drunk. Upham had taken him home and left him in Tor Street. Boyce had been very drunk but was quiet. Despite the evidence against him, Boyce pleaded not guilty but was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/005
Bisgood	John	Perry	James	07	01	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Perry of South Street, labourer at Dulcote Mill, with being drunk and disorderly in Broad Street on 28 December 1897. Perry had been seen and heard by both police serjeant Furze and PC Upham who described Perry as acting like a madman. A crowd of people had gathered around him. James Perry's wife attended the hearing on his behalf. James Perry was fined 5/- including costs and given one week within which to pay.	1898/006

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Martin	Jacob	07	01	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Jacob Martin of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, haulier, with causing an obstruction on the highway in High Street by leaving a waggon parked there. Martin was recorded as being both the driver and the owner of the waggon. Martin pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- with costs of 6/-. These sums were recorded as paid.	1898/007
Bennett	W J			07	01	1898	Licence extension application	La	W J Bennett requested an extension to his alcohol licence at The White Hart on 7 January. An extension until midnight was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1898/008
Maggs	William			07	01	1898	Licence for music and dancing	La	William Maggs of High Street applied for a licence for music and dancing in the Town Hall. The application was granted subject to restrictions similar to those being applied in Bristol. The licence was to be valid up to 10 October 1898. Any application for extension of the licence for the sale of intoxicating liquor would need to be submitted to the justices' clerk one week in advance. Note: the surname of the applicant could easily be 'Mogg' rather than 'Maggs'.	1898/009
Bisgood	John	Mounty	William	08	01	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Mounty of Southover, cattle drover, with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 7 January. Mounty, described as belonging to Frome, was staggering drunk and using foul language by The Railway Tavern in Southover. He was taken away from the scene by Mr Ayres of Southover. Mounty was fined 10/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/010
Justices		Various		11	01	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 January. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes are incorporated into those entries.	1898/011
Knight	James	Uglove	Caroline	12	01	1898	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight arrested Caroline Uglove for being drunk in High Street. Uglove had apparently come to Wells from Bristol (and her husband was still in Bristol) on Saturday evening and she had been part of a group of 3 or 4 people who had consumed 2 or 3 quarts of ale. Uglove had been very drunk, but civil, and Knight had been able to get her to the cells at the police station where she remained until the hearing. Caroline Uglove was discharged on promising to leave the city.	1898/012

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Webb	H F			17	01	1898	Licence transfer application	La	H F Webb applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Queen's Head Inn so that he could take charge of it from Friday. The application was granted subject to the production of the appropriate papers and the payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1898/013
Police		James	Matthew	20	01	1898	Theft	T	Matthew James, haulier, was charged with stealing several files, a hammer, 1 saw kit, 1 brace bit, a knife, fork and spoon, a brush and a black leather bag and strap. The total value of the goods was assessed as being 12/-. The property belonged to John Samuel Bullock of Shepton Mallet and the theft was alleged to have taken place on 19 January. James was found guilty of the offence and fined 20/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/014
Moor	William			24	01	1898	Licence extension application	La	William Moor of The Golden Heart Inn applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence in order to host a Wells Harmonic Club dinner on 1 February. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1898/015
Weaver	Mr			24	01	1898	Licence extension application	La	Mr Weaver of The Mermaid Inn applied for an extension of his alcohol licence in order to host a dinner for GWR staff on 27 January. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1898/016
Kerslake	William			24	01	1898	Licence extension application	La	William Kerslake applied for an extension of the licence to permit music and dancing in the Town Hall from 11pm on 11 February to 4am on 12 February. The application was granted.	1898/017
Bown	Sarah	Butler	John Thomas Ferguson O'Connor	24	01	1898	Obtaining lodging by false pretences	Fr	Sarah Bown complained that James Thomas Ferguson O'Connor Butler of the 1st East Yorks Regiment had obtained two nights lodging from her under false pretences on 22 and 23 January. The value of the lodging was 2/- and there were 3 witnesses to support her claim. The defendant was committed to gaol to await trial at the next quarter sessions but was then granted bail in the sum of £5 of his money and two sureties of £2.10s.0d each. Note: it seems possible, but unlikely, that the defendant's surname was O'Connor and his occupation was that of a butler. However, this does not seem to fit with being in the army and 'Butler' is shown with an initial capital which would suggest it was a surname rather than an occupation.	1898/018

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Johnson	Joseph	Ayres	Arthur	24	01	1898	Theft of brass weight	T	Joseph Johnson complained that Arthur Ayres had stolen from him on 22 January one 2oz brass weight with a value of 6d. There were said to be 3 witnesses to the theft. Ayres was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/019
Gavin	Hester Anns	Stevens	Frederick	02	02	1898	Assault	A	Hester Anna Gavin of No 9 Southover, wife of Henry Gavin, labourer, complained that on 23 January she had been assaulted and beaten by Frederick Stevens of Southover, labourer. Kate Mundy of No 7 Southover, wife of Alfred Mundy, was called as a witness for the plaintiff. Hester Gavin stated that at around 10.15pm she had gone outside to pick up her husband's hat from the road. Frederick Stevens had come along looking to fight her husband and told her to get out of the way. She alleged that Stevens had then struck her in the face with his fist and knocked her down. Stevens claimed that he had not touched her. Kate Mundy said that she had seen Hester Gavin go out into the road and had seen her fall over with Stevens in close attendance, but she could not see if Stevens had struck her or pushed her. The justices dismissed the case.	1898/020
Bennett	Charles Vincent	Willcox	Albert J	05	02	1898	Wilful damage	Wd	Charles Vincent Bennett, secretary and manager of the Wells Gaslight Company, complained that on 17 November 1897 Albert J Willcox of Burcot Road, ironmonger's assistant, had wilfully damaged a gaslight belonging to the Wells Gaslight Company. At the hearing on 8 February Mr Chubb, acting on behalf of the Wells Gaslight Company, applied for the case to be withdrawn and the withdrawal was allowed by the justices.	1898/021

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Dunn	Fanny			08	02	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Fanny Dunn, through the agency of R Morton, applied to have the alcohol licence for The Mitre Hotel transferred into her name. When the alcohol licence had come up for renewal in September 1897 it had been renewed in the name of Timothy Edward Dunn. On 14 December 1897 a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence into the name of Fanny Dunn had been granted with an expiry date of 8 February. Note: a document is included which shows the renewal of the licence on 14 September 1897 and on the reverse the application for a temporary transfer until 8 February 1898 (see case 1897/161 for the application for a temporary transfer). However, the only reference to an application for a permanent transfer is contained in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 February 1898 (see case 1898/024).	1898/022
Webb	William Henry			08	02	1898	Licence transfer application	La	William Henry Webb applied for the alcohol licence for The Queen's Head Inn to be transferred into his name. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 30/-. Note: the only reference to this application is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 February (see case 1898/024).	
Justices		Various		08	02	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 February. All the cases heard, with the exception of the licence transfer applications in 1898/022 and 1898/023, are documented in earlier entries with relevant data from the minutes incorporated into those entries.	1898/024

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Upham	William	Lynch Ford	Michael William	12	02	1898	Theft of boots	T	Elijah Gibbons reported that he had had a pair of boots stolen from him on the night that he had stayed at The Railway Tavern on 10 February. The boots were valued at 3/-. Suspicion fell upon Michael Lynch and William Ford who had both been staying at the same inn and were known to work together. PC Upham made enquiries in Wookey, Yarley, Wedmore, Axbridge and Cheddar before going to Chewton, Paulton, Midsomer Norton and Radstock on the following day before finding Lynch hawking at Clandown. Not far away, along the Bath Road, they found Ford. Upham searched Ford's possessions but found no boots. He became suspicious of Ford's boots, but Ford was adamant that they had been bought in Salisbury and that the salesman had even stretched them to fit Ford's feet. Both men were arrested and cautioned, being taken first to Radstock and then to Wells. At the hearing both men were discharged.	1898/025
West	Ernest	Ryan Lynch	John Michael	14	02	1898	Drunk and disorderly Assault on police officer	D A	Acting on complaints received at the police station PC West arrested John Ryan and Michael Lynch for being drunk and disorderly in St John Street at around 8pm on Saturday 12 February. Ryan, in particular, was said to have a crowd of children around him. Both men pleaded guilty to the charge of being drunk and disorderly and were each sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. In addition, while Lynch had been quiet on being arrested, Ryan had become violent and assaulted PC West causing some damage to his clothing. For this assault Ryan was sentenced to a further 21 days in prison with hard labour, this sentence to commence immediately after the completion of his sentence of 7 days with hard labour.	1898/026
Webb	William Henry	Hamlin	England	19	02	1898	Obtaining money by false pretences	Fr	William Henry Webb of The Queen's Head Inn complained that George Hamlin, formerly of Wells, travelling tinker, had obtained the sum of 1/- from him on false pretences. Evidence against Hamlin was provided by Webb himself, J Slater and PC West. The charge was dismissed on the defendant paying back the sum of 1/- that he had supposedly obtained by false pretences. Note: the cover note on the case documents and the notes of the hearing both refer to the defendant as 'England Hamlin' while the complaint itself refers to 'George Hamlin'.	1898/027

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Featherstone	William	25	02	1898	Begging in the street	V	William Featherstone, cooper, was found begging in High Street on 24 February. He admitted the offence and was discharged on promising not to be caught begging in the streets of Wells again.	1898/028
Woodford	Eliza	Lane	Joseph	03	03	1898	Assault	A	Eliza Woodford, a traveller with a pedlar's certificate, complained that Joseph Lane had physically assaulted her and threatened her with more physical violence on 3 March. She had been living with the defendant for around two years but that morning she had left town without him and was heading for Bristol. On the road Lane had overtaken her, struck her in the face with his fist, broke the handle off her basket, scattered the contents on the road and tore up her pedlar's certificate. He also threatened to tear her head off if she left him. Eliza Woodford admitted that she had left Lane before and claimed that she had effectively kept him for the last two years because he had done virtually no work except for a small amount with a troop of negroes in Weston-super-Mare the previous summer. Lane claimed that he had not threatened Woodford and asserted that she had followed him from Tunbridge Wells to Hastings and onwards. The justices required Lane to put forward a bond of £5 of his own money plus a surety of £5 and be bound over to keep the peace, particularly towards Eliza Woodford, for the next 3 months. If he was unable or unwilling to do this, then he would be sent to prison for 14 days.	1898/029
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1898/030

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hippisley	William	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Hippisley of No 3 St Thomas Place was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Blanche Hippisley. Katherine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 28 February Blanche Hippisley, aged 11, had made only 41 attendances while the school was open for 68 attendances. Blanche Hippisley was recorded as having reached standard III. At the hearing on 8 March William Hippisley's wife attended and Hippisley was fined 2/6d to cover the cost of this case and that involving his daughter, Nellie (see also case 1898/030b).	1898/030a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hippisley	William	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Hippisley of No 3 St Thomas Place was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Nellie Hippisley. Katherine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 28 February Nellie Hippisley had made only 39 attendances while the school was open for 68 attendances. Nellie Hippisley was recorded as having reached standard II. At the hearing on 8 March William Hippisley's wife attended and Hippisley was fined 2/6d to cover the cost of this case and that involving his daughter, Blanche (see also case 1898/030a).	1898/030b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of Morgan's Court, St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Edith Edwards. Katherine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School reported that in the period ending 1 March Edith Edwards had only made 34 attendances when the school was open for 68 attendances. Edith Edwards, aged 7, was recorded as being at infant standard. The case was adjourned for one month. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 April (see also case 1898/043b) George Edwards' wife attended and also had Edith Edwards with her as requested by the justices. The case was adjourned for a further month.	1898/030c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Lane	Henry	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Lane of South Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Rose Lane. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 25 February Rose Lane had made no attendances while the school was open for 36 attendances. Rose Lane, aged 9, was recorded as having reached standard II. At the hearing on 8 March Henry Lane did not attend and in his absence was fined 2/6d.	1898/030d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Brown	Louisa	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Louisa Brown of Union Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, William Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 1 March William Vincent had made only 1 attendance while the school was open for 94 attendances. William Vincent, aged 11, was recorded as having reached standard I. At the hearing on 8 March Louisa Brown appeared and the case was adjourned for one month.	1898/030e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Jane Allen of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Elizabeth Allen. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period ending 28 February Elizabeth Allen had made only 35 attendances while the school was open for 66 attendances. Elizabeth Allen, aged 10, was recorded as having reached standard I. At the hearing on 8 March Jane Allen attended and was fined 2/6d to cover this case and that involving her son, Frederick (see case 1898/030g). She was given one week within which to pay.	1898/030f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Jane Allen of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Frederick Allen. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period ending 28 February Frederick Allen had made only 36 attendances while the school was open for 66 attendances. Frederick Allen, aged 11, was recorded as having reached standard II. At the hearing on 8 March Jane Allen attended and was fined 2/6d to cover this case and that involving her daughter, Elizabeth (see case 1898/030f). She was given one week within which to pay.	1898/030g

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Thomas Cole. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period to 28 February Thomas Coles had only made 27 attendances when the school was open for 66 attendances. Thomas Coles, aged 8, was recorded as having reached standard II. Mary Jane Cole attended the hearing on 8 March when the case was adjourned for one month. At the petty sessions sitting on 12 April the case was adjourned for a further month until 10 May. On this occasion Mary Jane Coles reported that Thomas had been ill for several days. However, she was fined 2/6d and given 3 days within which to pay. Note: the surname of the defendant is given in some documnts as 'Cole' and in others as 'Coles'.	1898/030h
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Frederick Cole. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period ending 28 February Frederick Coles had made only 5 appearances when the school was open for 66 attendances. Frederick Coles, aged 12, was recorded as working in standard III. Mary Jane Cole attended the hearing on 8 March when the case was adjourned for one month. It was noted that Frederick had been suffering from ringworm. At the petty sessions sitting on 12 April the case was adjourned for a further month until 10 May when the case was adjourned again in order to assess Frederick's attendance after his recovery from ringworm. Note: the surname of the defendant is given in some documnts as 'Cole' in others as 'Coles'.	1898/030i

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Barnett	James	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Barnett of New Inn Yard was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Annie Davies. Katherine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School reported that in the period to 28 February Annie Davies had made only 26 attendances when the school was open for 68 attendances. Annie Davies, aged 12, was recorded as having reached standard V. It was noted that the girl would reach the age of 13 on 1 February 1899. A birth certificate included in the documentation showed the child, named as Annie Elizabeth Davies, as being born on 1 February 1886 with the mother's name given as Leah Davies of No 4 St Thomas Street with an occupation of brushmaker but the father's name left blank. At the hearing on 8 March Barnett's wife attended (assumed to be Leah Davies) and the case was adjourned for one month. At the next petty sessions sitting on 12 April the case was further adjourned. At the petty sessions sitting on 10 May (see minutes of the meeting in case 1898/059) Barnett's wife again attended and on this occasion the case was dismissed.	1898/030j
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	04	03	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of Morgan's Court, St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Alfred Edwards. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boy's School reported that in the period to 25 February Alfred Edwards had made only 25 attendances when the school was open for 38 attendances. Alfred Edwards, aged 12, was recorded as having reached standard III. At the hearing on 8 March George Edwards' wife attended and her husband was fined 2/6d in respect of Alfred's poor attendance. At the petty sessions sitting of 12 April (see also case 1898/043a) George Edwards' wife attended and also had Alfred Edwards with her as requested by the justices. The case was adjourned for a further month.	1898/030k

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Snelling	Charles	05	03	1898	Disturbing the peace	Dp	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Charles Snelling of St John Street, labourer, with disturbing the peace in High Street by ringing several doorbells in the street on 8 February. PC Upham saw Snelling together with Alfred Benford at around 10.55pm in High Street. Upham saw Snelling ring the bell at Mr Parker's and then at Mr Holloway's. He then approached him and asked why he had rung the bells, but Snelling denied that he had done it. Leonard Serel of No 45 High Street had looked out of the window and had seen PC Upham and heard both bells ringing. On the other hand Alfred Benford denied that Snelling had rung any bells. Snelling was found guilty and fined a total of 5/-; the fine was recorded as paid. Note: the name of the witness given here as 'Benford' is not clear and might be 'Burford' or 'Bruford'.	1898/031
Justices		Various		08	03	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 March. All the cases heard are documented in earlier entries with relevant data from the minutes incorporated into those entries.	1898/032
Guardians of Wells Union		Knowles	Margaret	08	03	1898	Wilful damage	Wd	Frederick Titchmarsh Jackson, master of the Wells Union workhouse, complained that Margaret Knowles had caused disruption in the workhouse by refusing to accept its conditions and by wilfully damaging a chair to the value of 7/6d. Knowles had been given leave to go outside the workhouse for a few hours but had returned late and became abusive when reprimanded. She then smashed a chair to bits and refused to accept advice to calm down and stay quiet. Knowles pleaded not guilty to her offences but was found guilty and sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/033
White	James	Tripp	James	12	03	1898	Theft of meat	T	James White of Queen Street, butcher, complained that James Tripp had stolen from him two ribs of beef with a value of 7/4d. In addition to James White himself, evidence was provided by Mary White and police serjeant James Knight. Tripp was found guilty of the offence and fined £1 including costs or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: the surname of the defendant is not clear and could be something other than 'Tripp'.	1898/034

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Griffin	Mary	Hughes	Mary	14	03	1898	Fortune telling	Ft	Mary Hughes, gipsy, was charged with fortune telling as a result of her dealings with Mary Griffin of The Liberty where she was working as a cook to Dr Beale. Mary Hughes had come to the door of Dr Beale's house and asked Mary Griffin to buy some of the wares in her basket. Griffin had refused whereupon Hughes told her that she had trouble in her face and that tears were not far away. Hughes offered to tell her fortune, but would need some valued possessions that would enable her to do so. Griffin was initially unconvinced but she was concerned about whether she would get back her boyfriend who had left her. She ended up giving Hughes a watch and chain and a silk handkerchief with Hughes promising to return them in a couple of days. When this did not happen and the police were contacted police serjeant Furze and PC Upham visited a gipsy encampment not far from The Slab House. On searching Mary Hughes' possessions Furze and Upham identified certain possessions of Mary Griffin and obtained a watch and chain from Mary Hughes' partner, a man called John Bassett. Mary Hughes pleaded not guilty to the charge of fortune telling but was found guilty. She was sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Mary Griffin's possessions were to be returned to her, but the police were to detain some of the other materials found to have been taken by Mary Hughes (see also other cases involving Mary Hughes, specifically cases 1898/037 and 1898/042).	1898/035

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Morgan	William	Ridley	Albert	17	03	1898	Obtaining goods and services by false pretences	Fr	<p>William Morgan of No 17 Tucker Street, employed as a shunter by GWR, complained that Albert Ridley had used false pretences to obtain board and lodging from him to the value of 2/6d and had stolen an overcoat with a value of £1. Morgan stated that Ridley had come to his door and asked for accommodation since he had just taken up work at Sheldons and had nowhere to stay. Ridley was given a room and offered food that evening together with breakfast the following morning. Ridley had supposedly agreed that he would stay for some time at 15/- per week. When he left the house the next morning he told Jane Morgan, wife of William Morgan, that her husband had given his permission for Ridley to borrow his overcoat. William Morgan asserted that he had had no discussion with Ridley about the overcoat. Ridley had later sold the overcoat to John Chivers of No 19 Hill Head, Glastonbury for 5/- with a promise to buy it back from him for 10/- in a fortnight. Ernest Edwin Sheldon denied that Ridley had been offered employment by Sheldons, although Ridley had come to their offices asking for work. Ridley was arrested by PC Upham just over a mile from Glastonbury railway station after a complaint was lodged by William Morgan. Ridley was remanded in custody until 24 March. At the hearing on that date Ridley was committed for trial at the next quarter sessions, while William Morgan and the other witnesses were required to put forward sureties of £10 and £5 respectively to ensure their attendance at Ridley's trial. Note: the surname of the plaintiff is not clearly written and is open to several different interpretations but on the basis of the names appearing on other cases (e.g. case 1898/044b) it seems probable that it should be 'Morgan'.</p>	1898/036

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Thomas	Effie	Hughes (aka Stokes)	Mary (aka Sarah)	18	03	1898	Theft of ring	T	<p>Effie Thomas of Priory Road, domestic servant, complained that Mary Hughes alias Sarah Stokes had stolen from her on 12 March a gold ring set with 4 pearls and 2 rubies with a value of £1.7s.0d. Effie Thomas stated that the defendant had come to the house door and asked her to buy something from her basket. Effie Thomas refused, whereupon Hughes alias Stokes took hold of her hand and seemed to be reading something from it. She offered to tell Thomas more but would need to know her planet. When asked how much she charged Hughes alias Stokes talked about the weight of a half-crown, but she could use Thomas' ring, brooch, and watch & chain instead. Thomas refused to give the defendant the brooch but handed over the ring and the chain on a promise that Hughes alias Stokes would return them safely the following Thursday between 2.30pm and 3pm. When this did not happen Effie Thomas brought a complaint. She reported that Mary Hughes / Sarah Stokes claimed to be living in a cottage in East Wells.</p> <p>At a hearing on 2 April Mary Hughes alias Sarah Stokes was charged with the above offence but was discharged. However, the defendant was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour on another charge of theft (see case 1898/042). The property taken was to be restored to its owners, except for the watch & chain and a handkerchief which were to be detained by the police for the present.</p>	1898/037

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Lane	Mary	30	03	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mary Lane of South Street with using obscene language in South Street on 7 March. Harry Wood of Tucker Street was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. At around 10.50pm PC Upham had been in Southover when he heard someone shouting and using extremely bad language in South Street. He found Mary Lane outside her front door shouting and swearing. Upham asserted that Mary Lane was under the influence of drink and had been turned out by her husband. Harry Wood had been with PC Upham in Southover and confirmed his statement about the very bad language that was being used. At the hearing on 12 April Mary Lane did not appear and was found guilty and fined £1 including costs or, if in default, to spend 7 days in prison. She was given 14 days within which to pay.	1898/038
Bisgood	John	Whitehead	Thomas	30	03	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Whitehead of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert with obstructing the highway in St John Street by leaving a horse and cart there. Thomas Whitehead pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1898/039
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		30	03	1898	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, reported that various individuals had failed to pay the general district rate set on 4 October 1897. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1898/040
Jenkins	William Henry	Munday	Alfred	30	03	1898	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Alfred Munday of Southover was recorded as owing 19/8d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of £1.2s.2d. At the hearing on 12 April Munday was ordered to pay 11/1d on or before 3 May 1898 and the remaining 11/1d on or before 24 May 1898. In the event of his failing to do so, a distress order would be issued to recover the balance still unpaid.	1898/040a
Jenkins	William Henry	Knight	Richard	30	03	1898	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Richard Knight of Ethel Street was recorded as owing £1.2s.0d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of £1.4s.6d. At the hearing on 12 April Knight was given until 12 May to discharge the debt in full. In the event of his failing to do so, a distress order would be issued to recover the balance still unpaid.	1898/040b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	30	03	1898	Non-payment of general district rate	N	Henry Oxley of Priest Row was recorded as owing 9/2d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of 11/8d. Oxley did not appear at the hearing on 12 April and was given until 26 April to discharge the outstanding debt. In the event of his failing to do so, a distress order would be issued to recover the balance still unpaid.	1898/040c
Jenkins	William Henry	Ashford	James	30	03	1898	Non-payment of general district rate	N	James Ashford of No 47 St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 9/2d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of 11/8d. At the hearing on 12 April Ashford's wife appeared and Ashford was given until 12 May to discharge the debt in full. In the event of his failing to do so, a distress order would be issued to recover the balance still unpaid.	1898/040d
Jenkins	William Henry	Stanton	William	30	03	1898	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Stanton of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 14/8d for the general district rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of 17/2d. A note on the summons recorded that the outstanding debt had been received.	1898/040e
Police		Hayling	Thomas	31	03	1898	Drunkenness	D	Thomas Hayling of Cheltenham was found to be drunk in Priest Row late in the evening of 30 March. He had in his possession a tin whistle. He pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 2/6d or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. It was recorded that Hayling went to gaol.	1898/041
Wilshire	Ellen	Hughes (aka Stokes)	Mary (aka Sarah)	02	04	1898	Theft of brooch	T	Mary Hughes alias Sarah Stokes was charged with the theft of various items belonging to Ellen Wilshire. The items comprised a gold brooch, a fancy pin cushion, a dress bodice and skirt with a total value of £1.7s.6d. The theft was recorded as taking place on 12 March. At the hearing Mary Hughes alias Sarah Stokes was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Her child aged around 12 months was to accompany her in prison. Note: there is no formal complaint documentation for this offence. The defendant was tried for this offence together with a similar offence involving Effie Thomas for which Mary Hughes alias Sarah Stokes appears to have been discharged (see case 1898/037). The property taken by Hughes/Stokes was to be returned to its owners except for a watch & chain (the property of Effie Thomas) and a handkerchief (not mentioned in either case) which were to be detained by the police for the present.	1898/042

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		04	04	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1898/043
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	04	04	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of Morgan's Court, St Thomas Street was summoned again because of the poor attendance record of his son, Alfred Edwards. William Barnes, principal teacher of St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 1 April he had made only 23 attendances when the school had been open for 38 attendances. Alfred Edwards, aged 12, was noted as having reached standard III. Edwards had previously been summoned in March (see case 1898/030k) but was now requested to appear again and to bring Alfred Edwards before the justices. At the hearing on 12 April George Edwards' wife appeared with Alfred Edwards in attendance. The case was adjourned for a further month until 10 May when George Edwards' wife attended again. On this occasion George Edwards was fined 2/6d and was given 3 days within which to pay.	1898/043a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	04	04	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of Morgan's Court, St Thomas Street was summoned again because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Edith Edwards. George Edwards had previously been summoned in March (see case 1898/030c) but was now requested to appear again and to bring Edith Edwards before the justices. At the hearing on 12 April George Edwards' wife appeared with Edith Edwards in attendance. The case was adjourned for a further month until 10 May when George Edwards' wife again attended. On this occasion George Edwards was fined 2/6d and given 3 days within which to pay.	1898/043b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Foot	Albert Henry	04	04	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Henry Foot of Silver Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Emily Foot. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period ending 25 March Emily Foot had made only 27 attendances while the school was open for 40 attendances. Emily Foot, aged 12, was recorded as having reached standard IV. At the hearing on 12 April Albert Foot was fined 5/-.	1898/043c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Attwood	William	04	04	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	William Attwood of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Bessie Attwood. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period to 25 March Bessie Attwood had only made 50 attendances when the school was open for 78 attendances. Bessie Attwood, aged 11, was recorded as having reached standard II. At the hearing on 12 April the case was adjourned for one month. At the petty sessions sitting on 10 May (see case 1898/059) the case against William Attwood was dismissed.	1898/043d
Salmon	Henry L	Various		09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor reported that various individuals had failed to pay the poor rate set on 31 December 1897. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1898/044
Salmon	Henry L	Mundy	Alfred	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Alfred Mundy of Green's Place was recorded as owing 8/2d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 10/8d. An instruction was given for a distress order to be prepared with its issue to be delayed by one week in order to give Mundy the opportunity to pay off the debt. Note: the spelling of the defendant's surname is clearly different from that shown in the case of the general district rate (see case 1898/040a).	1898/044a
Salmon	Henry L	Morgan	William	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Morgan of No 17 Tucker Street was recorded as owing 6/4d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 8/10d. The case was not mentioned at the hearing of 12 April.	1898/044b
Salmon	Henry L	Say	Thomas	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Thomas Say of No 16 Tucker Street was recorded as owing 6/4d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 8/10d. Say was noted as having paid 3/-. An instruction was given for a distress order to be prepared with its issue to be delayed by two weeks in order to give Say the opportunity to pay off the debt.	1898/044c
Salmon	Henry L	Ashford	James	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	James Ashford of St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 4/8d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 7/2d. At the hearing on 12 April Ashford's wife attended. An instruction was given for a distress order to be prepared with its issue to be delayed by one week in order to give Ashford the opportunity to pay off the debt.	1898/044d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Salmon	Henry L	Brigg	Mr	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mr Brigg was recorded as owing 4/8d for the poor rate. Responsibility for payment was designated as falling to Alfred Trimmer (see case 1898/044h)	1898/044e
Salmon	Henry L	Hatcher	Mr	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mr Hatcher was recorded as owing 3/4d for the poor rate. Responsibility for payment was designated as falling to Alfred Trimmer (see case 1898/044h)	1898/044f
Salmon	Henry L	White	Mr	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mr White was recorded as owing 2/9d for the poor rate. Responsibility for payment was designated as falling to Alfred Trimmer (see case 1898/044h)	1898/044g
Salmon	Henry L	Trimmer	Alfred	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Alfred Trimmer of No 51 St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 14/8d for the poor rate. In addition he was also desigated as being responsible for the payment of the poor rates for Messrs Brigg, Hatcher and White, all at the same address, a total of 10/9 (see cases 1898/044e, 1898/044f and 1898/044g). This gave a total of £1.5s.5d plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.7s.11d. The full sum was recorded as being paid.	1898/044h
Salmon	Henry L	Stanton	William Noah	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Noah Stanton of No 57 St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 9/2d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 11/8d. An instruction was given for a distress order to be prepared with its issue to be delayed by one week in order to give Stanton the opportunity to clear the debt. The outstanding amount was recorded as paid.	1898/044i
Salmon	Henry L	Batstone	John Wilmington	09	04	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	John Wilmington Batstone of No 22 St Thomas Street was recorded as owing 17/8d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.0s.2d. Batstone appeared at the hearing on 12 April and was recorded as paying 17/8d. The costs were allowed and the debt recorded as cleared.	1898/044j
Police		Rich	John	12	04	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Rich was arrested for being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 9 April. Rich had been arrested by police serjeant Furze. Rich was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. Rich was allowed until Saturday to pay the fine. Note: this case is only recorded in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 April (see case 1898/046).	1898/045

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		12	04	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 April. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant information from the minutes is incorporated in these entries. Included with the minutes is a list of the cases to be heard with details of the defendants and the offences with which they were charged; a line is drawn through the names of all the defendants perhaps indicating that the cases have been dealt with.	1898/046
Police		Smith	George	28	04	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	George Smith was charged with being drunk and disorderly in the Market Place on 27 April. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/047
Police		Guppy	John	28	04	1898	Theft	T	John Guppy, aged 17, was charged with the theft of certain unspecified items of property (the entry is not clear and does not specify to whom the property belonged). Guppy was found guilty and sentenced to 2 months in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. The sum of 2/- was found on the defendant and handed to the prosecution.	1898/048
Knight	James	Rich	George	02	05	1898	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight charged George Rich of Binegar with being drunk on Cathedral Green on 1 May. He had initially met Rich at the top of High Street and saw Rich staggering towards Cathedral Green. At the Conduit they had talked about Rich still having 5 miles to go to get home. Soon afterwards Knight had found Rich lying down on the ground near the Grammar School. Rich was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/049
Bisgood	John	Price	William	06	05	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Price of St Thomas Street, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 9 April. Price pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs, even though the costs alone were recorded as 6/-.	1898/050
Bisgood	John	Stevens	Susan	06	05	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Susan Stevens of Southover with using obscene language in Southover on 10 April. The expressions allegedly used by Susan Stevens are included in a separate document. Susan Stevens appeared at the hearing on 10 May and pleaded not guilty, claiming that she was only calling her husband from the gas works. Stevens was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs which were recorded as 9/- . She was given until Saturday (14 May) to pay.	1898/051

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Trim	Ernest	06	05	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ernest Trim of St Thomas Street, brushmaker, with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 16 April. At the hearing on 10 May Trim appeared and submitted a plea of not guilty. However, he was found guilty on the evidence of PC Upham and fined 5/- including costs which were recorded as being 6/-. Trim was given until Saturday (14 May) to pay.	1898/052
Bisgood	John	Ball	James	06	05	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Ball of Southover with using obscene language in Broad Street on 18 April. Ball pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- plus costs of 6/- or to serve 7 days in prison. Ball was given until Saturday (14 May) to pay.	1898/053
Bisgood	John	Libby	George	06	05	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George Libby of Glastonbury with obstructing the highway in High Street on 19 April by leaving a horse and waggon in the street. Libby pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. Note: the complaint document erroneously gives the date of the offence as 19 May.	1898/054
Bisgood	John	Martin	Jacob	06	05	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Jacob Martin of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, haulier, with using obscene language in Tucker Street on 21 April. The expressions allegedly used by Martin are included in a separate document. Martin appeared at the hearing and pleaded not guilty. However, he was found guilty on the evidence of PC Hyett who had seen Martin in the tap and then later in Princess Road where he again used bad language. Martin was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. The cover document for the case also shows that there were to be costs of 6/- but this line is struck through.	1898/055
Police		Redstone	Charles	07	05	1898	Theft of umbrella and knife	T	Charles Redstone, who was born in Craigdon in 1854 and served for 12 years in the Dorset Regiment, was arrested on 7 May on suspicion of having stolen an umbrella and a knife. The case against him was dismissed and he was discharged.	1898/056

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
West	Ernest	Redstone	Charles	09	05	1898	Drunkenness	D	PC Ernest West arrested Charles Redstone at 1.00am on Sunday 8 May (the day after his appearance before the justices, see case 1898/056) for being drunk in Keward where he fell against a wall and lay down. At the time of his arrest Redstone had in his pocket 10d in coppers. Redstone was fined 10/- with costs of 5/7d or to serve 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/057
Police		Isgrove (aka Scott)	Thomas	10	05	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	Thomas Isgrove alias Scott was charged with using obscene language in St Cuthbert Street on 9 May. PC Hyett provided evidence of Isgrove's behaviour which involved not only a good deal of swearing but also begging for coppers. Isgrove alias Scott was found guilty and fined 5/- or to spend 7 days in prison; he was recorded as going to gaol. Note: the only record of this case is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 May (see case 1898/059).	1898/058
Justices		Various		10	05	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 May. All the cases heard are documented in earlier entries with the exception of the case against Thomas Isgrove alias Scott (see case 1898/058) where the only documentation is the entry in these minutes. Relevant information from these minutes has been incorporated in the earlier entries.	1898/059
Upham	William	Knowles	Margaret	11	05	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC William Upham arrested Margaret Knowles for drunk and disorderly behaviour in Broad Street on 10 May. Knowles pleaded guilty. The case against her was dismissed on the provision that she cleaned the cell in which she had been held and went to the workhouse.	1898/060

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Justices		Isgrove (aka Scott)	Polly	11	05	1898	Application for Girls Industrial School in Bath	Ed	When Thomas Isgrove alias Scott was arrested for using obscene language and begging (see case 1898/058) he had his daughter, Polly, said to be aged 9, with him. He was initially locked up and then committed to prison for 7 days at the end of which he would be required to serve a further 14 days in prison because ten years earlier in 1888 he had absconded when facing a term in prison for being drunk and disorderly. As Thomas Isgrove alias Scott had no fixed abode and travelled the country earning a living wherever he could, for example, hoeing turnips, and as his wife, formerly Caroline Sage, was believed to be dead, there was no home to which Polly Isgrove could go. Police serjeant James Knight initially gave her a ticket for the workhouse so that at least she would have some accommodation. The justices then determined that Polly Isgrove should be sent to the Girls' Industrial School in Bath until she was 16 so that she could be looked after and be given an education. On 12 May an application for the Industrial School was completed and approved by the justices.	1898/061

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Vile	Emily Eliza Jane	Vile	Charles	16	05	1898	Desertion of wife	Ds	Emily Eliza Jane Vile of No 10 South Street applied for a judgement against her husband, Charles Vile of No 4 Southover for deserting her. Emily Eliza Jane Stevens aged 21 and Charles Vile also aged 21 had married on 5 June 1879 in the Wesleyan Chapel in Southover. She stated that they had lived together at Wells ever since, except for a period of 18 months in Pontypridd, but Charles Vile had deserted her on 6 November 1897 and they had lived apart ever since. He was lodging with Mrs Brock in Southover. He had occasionally sent her a little money for groceries, given her money at Christmas and Easter and brought her some coal, although he rarely spoke to her. At the hearing on 2 June Arthur Vile, aged 18 and the only child of Charles and Emily Vile, appeared as a witness. He stated that he now paid the rent of the house in South Street and his mother effectively lived with him. It was difficult for her to find work because her right hand had been virtually paralysed for the last 3 years so that she was really an invalid. The justices determined that Emily Eliza Jane Vile was no longer bound to cohabit with her husband and that Charles Vile was required to pay his wife the sum of 6/- per week commencing on 9 June 1898. Charles Vile was also required to pay the sum of 8/6d to cover the costs of the case but was given 14 days within which to pay these costs.	1898/062
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Bincham	Mary Jane	17	05	1898	Lunatic requiring care and attention	Lu	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for the Wells Union, reported that Mary Jane Bincham of No 6 Portway was deemed to be a lunatic not under proper control. He submitted that she needed to be taken into the workhouse where she could be appropriately cared for. The justices recorded that, as there was considered to be appropriate accommodation for Mary Jane Bincham in the workhouse, she should be transferred there and be looked after, initially for a period of 14 days.	1898/063
Bisgood	John	Francis	Ernest	31	05	1898	On licensed premises outside licensing hours	L	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Ernest Francis of Southover, labourer, with being on licensed premises operated by Thomas Brophy outside legal licensing hours on 22 May. Thomas Brophy was also prosecuted for opening licensed premises outside licensing hours (see case 1898/065) but when that case was dismissed, the case against Francis was withdrawn.	1898/064

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Brophy	Thomas	31	05	1898	Opening licensed premises outside licensing hours	L	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Brophy of The Railway Tavern, Southover, innkeeper, with opening his licensed premises on 22 May for the sale of intoxicating liquor outside the legal licensing hours. PCs Upham and Hyett had been assigned to undertake surveillance work on The Railway Tavern by police serjeant Knight. On Sunday 22 May at around 7.30am they saw Ernest Francis approach the kitchen window and speak to someone inside. About an hour later Ernest Francis went back to The Railway Tavern, went in and remained about 3 minutes. Immediately after he left Mrs Brophy appeared at the door, checked the street and walked across the road to Francis' lodging; she appeared to be carrying something bulky, but when she returned within a couple of minutes there was no evidence of anything bulky. At around 8.45am Ernest Francis had again gone to The Railway Tavern and spoke to someone through the kitchen window. Soon afterwards Thomas Brophy came out and went towards Ernest Francis' lodgings. Brophy was stopped by Hyett and Upham and they found that he was carrying a quart bottle full of beer. PC Upham thought that the beer seemed fresh and on examining the beer tap in The Railway Tavern he considered it had been used that morning. Mrs Brophy denied having left the premises that morning and they both denied having the premises open for the sale of intoxicating liquor. Brophy claimed that it was legal for him to give some beer to a person who had helped him move his barrels of beer. The justices dismissed the case against Brophy and as a consequence John Bisgood withdrew the associated case against Ernest Francis (see case 1898/064).	1898/065
Bisgood	John	Welsford	William	31	05	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Welsford of Southover, upholsterer, with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 22 May. PC Hyett encountered Welsford at around 10.30pm shouting and swearing and using indecent language. James Tidball of Southover, carter, confirmed Welsford's use of bad language. Welsford, who lived opposite The Railway Tavern, was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs, this sum payable at once.	1898/066

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Loxton	William	31	05	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Loxton of South Street, labourer, with using obscene language in South Street on 23 May. PC Hyett and PC Upham went to Loxton's house to serve him with a distress warrant. Loxton came outside and began swearing at them. Loxton pleaded not guilty but was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/067
Bisgood	John	Loxton	Mary Ann	31	05	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Mary Ann Loxton of South Street with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 24 May. Mary Ann Loxton pleaded not guilty but PC Hyett had seen her walking drunkenly in the street and making use of bad language. She was fined 5/- including costs and allowed one week within which to pay.	1898/068
Bisgood	John	Burlton	John	31	05	1898	Furious driving	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Burlton of East Horrington, lime merchant, with furious driving of a carriage in St Cuthbert Street on 24 May. PC Upham had seen Burlton driving a black cob and trap in St Cuthbert Street at a dangerously high speed, particularly as there were lots of children in the street at the time. He then took the corner towards The Mermaid so quickly that the horse slipped on rounding the bend before Burlton pulled up at the inn. Harry Wood of Tucker Street confirmed Burlton's excessive speed down St Cuthbert Street. Burlton claimed that he could go as fast as he liked as long as he didn't gallop. The justices dismissed the case against Burlton.	1898/069
Knight	James	Reynolds	Mary	31	05	1898	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant James Knight arrested Mary Reynolds, aged 66, for being drunk in the Market Place on 30 May. Knight stated that he had seen the defendant staggering up High Street towards the Market Place with her clothes all dusty where she had fallen over. She had been put out of The Railway Tavern and he judged that she was not capable of taking care of herself. At the hearing Mary Reynolds stated that she was originally from Ireland but had come to Wells from Shepton Mallet only on Sunday 29 May. She had recently been in hospital for 3 months but had never been locked up before. The justices discharged her.	1898/070

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jackson	F J	Hooks	Mary Jane	04	06	1898	Wilful damage	Wd	F J Jackson, master of the Wells Union workhouse, complained that Mary Jane Hooks, who had been admitted to the workhouse from the asylum on 25 May, had wilfully and deliberately damaged two windows, breaking a total of 68 panes of glass with a replacement cost of 17/-. Her transfer to the workhouse at Wells had been intended as a temporary measure before she was transferred to the workhouse at Frome. When an officer came to talk to her about her removal to Frome, she was very abusive to him. At the end of the interview she left the room and wilfully damaged the two windows. Mary Jane Hooks was found guilty and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: the defendant's surname might possibly be 'Flocks'.	1898/071
Bisgood	John	Granville	Walter	06	06	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Walter Granville of Southover, labourer, with using obscene language in Southover on 10 May. James Standard of No 46 Southover and his wife, Emma Jane Standard, were both called to give evidence for the prosecution. Walter Granville entered a plea of not guilty. Emma Jane Standard claimed that she had been standing at her door when Granville came along and began using obscene language towards her, and also threatened to fight her. James Standard stated that he had been with his wife and Granville had used dirty language towards her. Ernest Francis, as a witness for the defence, asserted that he had not been present at the start of the altercation but he had seen James Standard come out and threaten to beat out Granville's brains with a stick. He had not noticed Mrs Standard until she came out later. He also stated that he had not heard Granville use any bad language. The case against Granville was dismissed.	1898/072

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
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Bisgood	John	Loxton	William	06	06	1898	Keeping a dog without a licence	DI	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Loxton of South Street, labourer, with keeping a dog without having a valid licence for the animal. The offence was identified on 23 May. When PC Hyett went to Loxton's house to serve a distress warrant he spotted two lurcher dogs, one tied up and the other lying by the fire. Loxton claimed that one of the dogs belonged to Mr Nurse of North Wootton but refused to show Hyett the licence for his own dog. At the hearing William Loxton entered a plea of not guilty and produced a licence for one dog. However, Mr Nurse of North Wootton had denied that the other dog was his and Loxton was therefore found guilty and fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/073
Bisgood	John	Isgrove (aka Scott)	Thomas	06	06	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Thomas Isgrove alias Scott of Chilton Polden, Somerset, labourer, with using obscene language in Southover on 28 May. The summons was served by a police constable from Edington. The hearing was scheduled for the petty sessions sitting in July rather than that in June.	1898/074
Bisgood	John	York	George	06	06	1898	Furious driving	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged George York of Yarley near Wookey, labourer, with furious driving of a carriage in Portway on 30 May. York pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs.	1898/075
Bisgood	John	Masters	Frederick	06	06	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Masters of Glastonbury, labourer, with using obscene language in High Street on 30 May. Frederick Stevans of Southover, groom, was called as a witness for the prosecution. Masters pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/076
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1898/077

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Coles	Mary Jane	10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Coles of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Frederick Coles. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 7 June Fredrick Cole, had made only 1 attendance while the school was open for 38 attendances. Frederick Cole, aged 11, was recorded as working towards standard III. At the hearing on 14 June Mary Jane Coles appeared and was fined 2/6d. Note: in the school attendance report prepared in March 1898 - at a different school - Frederick's age was recorded as being 12. Note: the summons refers to Frederick Coles but the school attendance report to Frederick Cole.	1898/077a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Coles	Mary Jane	10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Coles of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Thomas Coles. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 27 May Thomas Cole had made only 7 attendances while the school was open for 35 attendances. Thomas Cole, aged 8, was recorded as working towards standard II. At the hearing on 14 June Mary Jane Coles appeared and was fined 2/6d. Note: the summons refers to Thomas Coles but the school attendance report to Thomas Cole.	1898/077b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 27 May Jane White had made no attendances while the school was open for 37 attendances. Jane White, aged 12, was recorded as working at standard II. At the hearing on 14 June Joseph White did not appear. In his absence he was fined 2/6d.	1898/077c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Kate White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 27 May Kate White had made only 24 attendances while the school was open for 37 attendances. Kate White, aged 10, was recorded as working at standard II. At the hearing on 14 June Joseph White did not appear. In his absence he was fined 2/6d.	1898/077d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bryant	Mary	10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Bryant of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Reginald Bryant. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period ending 25 May Reginald Bryant had made only 31 attendances while the school was open for 60 attendances. Reginald Bryant, aged 12, was recorded as working at standard IV. At the hearing on 14 June Mary Bryant appeared and the case was adjourned for a month. When the adjourned hearing took place on 12 July Mary Bryant did not appear and was fined 5/- including costs.	1898/077e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Snook	Ann	10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Ann Snook of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Ada Snook. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period ending 25 May Ada Snook had made only 40 attendances while the school was open for 60 attendances. Ada Snook, aged 9, was recorded as working at standard III. At the hearing on 14 June Ann Snook appeared and was fined 2/6d.	1898/077f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Allen	Jane	10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Jane Allen of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her daughter, Elizabeth Allen. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period ending 25 May Elizabeth Allen had made only 45 attendances while the school was open for 60 attendances. Elizabeth Allen, aged 10, was recorded as working at standard I. At the hearing on 14 June Jane Allen appeared and was fined 2/6d.	1898/077g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Edith Edwards. Katherine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 27 May Edith Edwards had made only 18 attendances while the school was open for 40 attendances. Edith Edwards, aged 9, was recorded as working at standard I. At the hearing on 14 June George Edwards' wife appeared; her husband was fined 2/6d.	1898/077h

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Butt	Walter	10	06	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Walter Butt of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his son, Harry Butt. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at the Central Infants' School, reported that in the period ending 31 May Harry Butt had made only 18 attendances while the school was open for 36 attendances. Harry Butt, aged 6, was not recorded as having reached any standard. At the hearing on 14 June Walter Butt's wife appeared and the case was adjourned for a month. At the adjourned hearing on 12 July the defendant did not appear and the case was adjourned for a further month. The next hearing took place on 13 September and Butt's wife again attended. The case against Walter Butt was dismissed.	1898/077i
Coles	Gilbert John			14	06	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Gilbert John Coles applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Globe into his name from that of George Henry Blinman, The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: the only reference to this application is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 June (see case 1898/079).	1898/078
Justices		Various		14	06	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 June. With the exception of the application for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Globe (see case 1898/078) all the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated in those entries.	1898/079
Knight	James	Trim	Annie	21	06	1898	Theft of table knife	T	Police serjeant James Knight charged Annie Trim with the theft of a table knife belonging to Charles Hutchings. The knife was valued at 6d. Annie Hughes was called to give evidence for the prosecution. Annie Trim was bound over for 3 calendar months in the sum of £5.	1898/080
Upham	William	Banwell	Thomas	25	06	1898	Begging in the street	V	PC Upham arrested Thomas Banwell of Cheltenham for begging in Sadler Street on 24 June when Banwell had been seen going from door to door asking for money. Banwell pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/081

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Foote	Samuel	27	06	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight charged Samuel Foote with being drunk and disorderly by the Palace Moat on 26 June. Knight testified that he had seen the defendant near the Recreation Ground making his way towards Tor Street. Foote appeared to be drunk, reeling about and throwing stones. Foote submitted a plea of not guilty but was found guilty and sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/082
Freeman	Annie			27	06	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Annie Freeman applied for the temporary transfer into her name of the alcohol licence for The King's Arms in St John Street. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1898/083
Bisgood	John	Picton	Benjamin	04	07	1898	Bicycle without lights	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Benjamin Picton of Portway with riding a bicycle without lights between the hours of one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise. The offence occurred in the Market Place at 10.10pm on 11 June. Picton pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/084
Dawbney	Alice	Sheppard	Frederick	05	07	1898	Assault	A	Alice Dawbney of Pen Hill Farm, assistant teacher at St Thomas School, complained that on 1 July she had been assaulted by Frederick Sheppard of St Thomas Street. Frederick Sheppard was aged 11, having been born on 14 May 1887. He had a reasonable attendance record at school but had also on several occasions bitten, scratched or kicked other children. He was generally regarded as unruly, mischievous and difficult to handle. His family background indicated that his mother was dead and his father, Robert Sheppard, worked as a labourer earning around 12/- per week of which 2/6d went to support two of his children who were in the workhouse of the Wells Union. In total, Frederick Sheppard had 3 brothers and 2 sisters and one of his elder brothers had already been sent to an industrial school in Portishead in April 1897. The justices determined that, given his family background and his own character, it would be beneficial for Frederick Sheppard to be sent to the Industrial School for Boys in Bath until he reached the age of 16.	1898/085

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		05	07	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1898/086
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	05	07	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Frederick Coles. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 1 July Frederick Cole, had made only 11 attendances while the school was open for 38 attendances. Frederick Cole, aged 11, was recorded as working towards standard III. At the hearing on 12 July the case was adjourned for one month. The next hearing of the case took place on 13 September when Mary Jane Cole's daughter appeared and Mary Jane Cole was fined 2/6d. Note: the summons refers to Frederick Cole but the school attendance report to Frederick Coles.	1898/086a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	05	07	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Thomas Coles. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 1 July Thomas Coles had made only 21 attendances while the school was open for 38 attendances. Thomas Coles, aged 8, was recorded as working towards standard II. At the hearing on 12 July Mary Jane Cole attended but the case was adjourned for one month. The next hearing of the case took place on 13 September when Mary Jane Cole's daughter appeared and the justices dismissed the case involving Thomas Cole. Note: the summons refers to Thomas Cole but the school attendance report to Thomas Coles.	1898/086b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	05	07	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of her son, Albert Coles. No attendance details for Albert Cole are included in the documentation. At the hearing on 12 July Mary Jane Cole attended but the case was adjourned for one month. The next hearing of the case took place on 13 September when Mary Jane Cole's daughter appeared and the justices dismissed the case involving Albert Cole. Note: the summons refers to Albert Cole but the school attendance report to Albert Coles.	1898/086c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	05	07	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 30 June Jane White had made no attendances when the school had been open for 74 attendances. Jane White, aged 12, was recorded as working at standard II. Joseph White was instructed to bring his daughter before the justices on 12 July when he was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith.	1898/086d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	05	07	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Kate White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 30 June Kate White had made only 40 attendances when the school had been open for 74 attendances. Kate White, aged 10, was recorded as working at standard II. Joseph White was instructed to bring his daughter before the justices on 12 July when he was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith.	1898/086e
Bisgood	John	Cousins Ball Chapple Miller	Hubert Henry Joseph William	08	07	1898	Obstructing the footway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Hubert Cousins of Rowdens Close, Henry Ball of Mill Lane, Joseph Chapple of South Street and William Miller also of South Street with deliberately blocking the footway in High Street on 26 June, thus forcing passers by to step into the roadway to avoid them. Cousins did not appear at the hearing on 12 July, but the remaining defendants all pleaded guilty and were each fined 1/-; all fines were recorded as being paid. The case against Cousins was adjourned until 9 August when he pleaded guilty and was fined 1/-; the fine was noted as paid.	1898/087
Bisgood	John	Miller	Frederick	08	07	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Frederick Miller of the Market Place, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in the Market Place on 5 July. Miller pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs, the sum to be paid within one hour.	1898/088

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Everell	Arthur	08	07	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Arthur Everell of Southover, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 5 July. PC Hyett saw Everell in the street with his coat and vest off, challenging people to a fight and using extremely bad language. Hyett tried to get him to go indoors but Everell was very drunk and initially refused. Everell was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/089
Bisgood	John	Snelling	William	08	07	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Snelling with obstructing the highway on Cathedral Green by parking three horses, two vans and a carriage there on 5 July. The case was adjourned for one month. At the hearing on 9 August William Snelling pleaded guilty, but did state that there were 2 or 3 little girls in charge of the vehicles and the offence took place in the evening between 8.00pm and 8.45pm when there was not much traffic. Snelling was fined 5/- with costs of 6/-; both sums were recorded as paid.	1898/090
Bisgood	John	Chapple	Eliza	08	07	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Eliza Chapple of South Street, wife of Walter Chapple, with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 6 July. PC Hyett stated that he had seen Eliza Chapple in the street where she had been very drunk and he had seen her home. Walter Chapple attended the hearing in her stead. Eliza Chapple was fined 2/6d; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/091
Vile	Emily Eliza Jane	Vile	Charles	11	07	1898	Maintenance order arrears	Mo	Emily Eliza Jane Vile of No 10 South Street testified that in June 1898 the justices had awarded her a maintenance order whereby her husband, Charles Vile, who had left her and now lived in Southover, would pay her the sum of 6/- per week (see case 1898/062). She stated that Charles Vile had made no payments under this order and was now in arrears to the extent of £1.10s.0d. At the hearing on 12 July Emily Vile noted that she had applied for the payments to be made as per the court order. Charles Vile appears to have been discharged with an instruction to pay 6/- per week from last Thursday (7 July).	1898/092

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Creaton	William Henry	12	07	1898	Bicycle without lights	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Henry Creaton, clerk in holy orders, with riding a bicycle without lights between the hours of one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise. The offence occurred in the Market Place at 10.05pm on 22 June. Police serjeant Knight stopped Creaton and cautioned him with PC Whitehead also present. The defendant was also seen a second time on the same evening but dismounted from the bicycle before being stopped by the police. The case was adjourned for two months. At the hearing on 13 September the justices dismissed the case but John Bisgood appealed for costs to be awarded against the defendant and this was agreed.	1898/093
Upham	William	Isgrove (aka Scott)	Thomas	12	07	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Upham had been called to Evans' lodging house at around 11.20pm on 28 May where he found that Thomas Isgrove was drunk and behaving in a disorderly manner. He had no money to pay for lodgings but was refusing to leave the premises. Eventually he was taken out and went elsewhere. Isgrove was found guilty of being drunk and disorderly and committed to prison in Shepton Mallet for 14 days. Note: the only reference to this case is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 July (see case 1898/095).	1898/094
Justices		Various		12	07	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 July. The only case for which there is no other documentation than the entries in these minutes, is that of Thomas Isgrove (1898/094). All other cases heard are documented in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes included in those entries.	1898/095
Police		Rich	John	13	07	1898	Drunkenness	D	John Rich was charged with being drunk in a public place after being found asleep in the churchyard adjacent to Priest Row on 12 July. Rich pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- (he had 4½d in cash when arrested) or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Rich was recorded as going to gaol.	1898/096

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Matthews	William	19	07	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Matthews of St Thomas Street with being drunk and disorderly on Cathedral Green on 17 July. Matthews had been so drunk that he needed to be led home after midnight and was singing and shouting at the top of his voice. He pleaded not guilty but the justices found against him and fined him 5/- plus costs of 7/- all to be paid forthwith within one hour or to serve 14 days in prison. Both fine and costs were recorded as paid.	1898/097
Morgan	John			20	07	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Mr Chubb, acting on behalf of John Morgan of Newport, applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Foresters' Arms from Emily Gibbons to John Morgan. The application was granted.	1898/098
White	Edwin	Thomas	George	27	07	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	Edwin White of St Thomas Street complained that George Thomas, tramp, had used obscene language to a group of boys and to himself in St Thomas Street on 26 July. White had been watching the boys playing in the street when Thomas had come along. He possibly thought that the boys were laughing at him and turned on them with obscene language. When White complained to him, Thomas then used the same language on White. White had fetched PC Upham who found that Thomas had attracted a crowd of 50-60 people many of whom complained to Upham about the language that Thomas had been using. PC Upham himself stated that he had heard no bad language. Thomas, who had 2/4 ¹ / ₂ d in cash at the time of his arrest, was sentenced to spend 7 days in prison in Shepton Mallet.	1898/099
Police		Kelly	William	29	07	1898	Begging in the street	V	William Kelly, labourer, was arrested for begging in New Street on 28 July. At the time of his arrest he had 2d in cash. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/100

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Heath	Rose	29	07	1898	Begging in the street	V	Rose Heath was arrested for begging in Priory Road on 29 July. At the time of her arrest she had two children with her, one aged 10 going on 11, the other, a girl who would be 7 at Christmas. She also had two other children not with her at the time. Her husband was in south Wales where he was a collier. The justices discharged her on a promise that she would not offend again.	1898/101
Trimmer	Alfred	White	Joseph	02	08	1898	Eviction order	Ev	On 18 July Alfred Trimmer served on Joseph White a notice to quit the cottage and garden at No 49 St Thomas Street that White was renting on a weekly tenancy at 2/2d per week. Trimmer requested that White quit the property on 25 July and when he had not done so by 2 August Trimmer began proceedings to secure a possession order on the property. On 11 August the justices determined that a possession order would come into effect in 23 days time. Note: there is a discrepancy in the documentation about the start date of the tenancy with one document indicating that the first week's rent was due on 13 February 1897 and another indicating that the start of the tenancy agreement was 6 February 1898.	1898/102
Barnard	Emily	Hawkins	Edward	03	08	1898	Assault	A	Emily Barnard of High Street, wife of William Charles Barnard, butcher, complained that she had been assaulted by Edward Hawkins of St Thomas Street, pork butcher, on 1 August. Thomas Wickham of St Thomas Street, bus driver, and Ann Snooks of No 4 St Thomas Street were summoned to give evidence for the plaintiff. At the hearing on 9 August Mr Chubb, acting on behalf of Emily Barnard, applied for the case against Edward Hawkins to be withdrawn. The justices opined that the bench could not allow this action and requested the defendant and the witnesses to appear at the next sitting of the petty sessions court on 13 September. At that hearing the minutes recorded that the various summons had been served but no further information was recorded. One additional document is a handwritten but undated note from Edward Hawkins which reads 'Dear Sir, I have seen Mr and Mrs W Barnard who says your note is a mistake and I am to take no notice of the matter'. There is no indication as to whom the note is addressed.	1898/103

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Ball	Edwin	04	08	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edwin Ball of St Thomas Street, lime burner, with using obscene language in High Street on 23 July. Ball was summoned to appear at the petty sessions sitting on 9 August but did not attend. An arrest warrant was therefore issued and Ball was brought before the petty sessions court on 11 August where he was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1898/104
Foster	Robert	Matthews Barber	John Reginald	04	08	1898	Theft of apples	T	Robert Foster of Southover complained that John Matthews of St John Street and Reginald Barber of Southover had stolen a quarter of a peck of apples valued at 6d from his garden in Silver Street on 27 July. Sidney Herbert Smith Baker of Silver Street, postman, was called as a witness to give evidence on behalf of the plaintiff. He had seen the boys get over the wall into Foster's garden. At the hearing on 9 August Matthews and Barber both pleaded guilty and were fined 2/- including costs. They were given until Saturday (13 August) to pay.	1898/105
Morgan	John			09	08	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Mr Chubb, acting on behalf of John Morgan, applied for a transfer of the alcohol licence for The Foresters' Arms to his client. The application was granted. Note: the only reference to this application is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 August (see case 1898/107).	1898/106a
Coles	Gilbert John			09	08	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Gilbert John Coles applied to transfer the alcohol licence for The Globe into his name. The application was granted. Note: the only reference to this application is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 August (see case 1898/107).	1898/106b
Freeman	Annie			09	08	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Annie Freeman applied for the transfer into her name of the alcohol licence for The King's Arms in St John Street. The application was granted. Note: the only reference to this application is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 August (see case 1898/107).	1898/106c
Holloway	F H			09	08	1898	Licence extension application	La	F H Holloway applied for a licence extensions of two hours from 11pm to 1am for the Town Hall in order to host the Flower Show. The application was granted. Note: the only reference to this application is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 August (see case 1898/107).	1898/106d

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		09	08	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 August. There are a number of licence applications which are only documented in these minutes (see cases 1898/106a to 1898/106d inclusive). All other cases heard are documented in earlier entries and relevant data from the minutes included in those entries.	1898/107
Knight	James	Elliott	William Chambers	11	08	1898	Fraud	Fr	<p>Police serjeant James Knight charged William Chambers alias William Chambers Elliott of Tor Street with fraudulently obtaining money from Henry Thomas Blackburn and others on 20 July and 10 August by means of deception. Elliott claimed to be able to cure individuals who had been bewitched by evil people by driving out the devil that had been put into them. He claimed to have a secret instrument that would enable him to determine if the individual had been infected and by whom.</p> <p>Furthermore, he claimed that he could effect the cure within two minutes. He boasted that he had carried out more than 200 cases without a single failure. In this particular case Henry Thomas Blackburn had travelled from Mortlake in Surrey with Mrs Reynolds and her unwell daughter. Elliott charged 7/6d for driving out the devil (in this case said to have been introduced by Mrs Reynolds' daughter-in-law) but admitted that the child could be bewitched again. After Blackburn's second visit to Elliott he took his concerns to the police and this initiated the prosecution. When police serjeant Knight and PC Hyett went to arrest the defendant they searched the premises but found no instrument. William Chambers Elliott was found guilty and sentenced to two calendar months in prison in Shepton Mallet.</p> <p>Note: the cover document indicates that the charge against Elliott was 'Vagrancy' although a description of 'Fraud' appears more appropriate to the nature of the offence.</p> <p>Note: there are extensive minutes of the case in the documentation.</p>	1898/108
Police		Gould	William	11	08	1898	Sleeping in outhouse	V	William Gould was charged with vagrancy after being found sleeping in an outhouse in Portway at 1.30am on 11 August. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/109

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		11	08	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 August. With the exception of the case against William Gould (see 1898/109) the other cases heard are already documented in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes included in those entries.	1898/110
Furze	John	Matthews	Thomas	11	08	1898	Indecent assault Indecent exposure	Sale	<p>Police serjeant Furze charged Thomas Matthews of St Thomas Street, wood turner, with indecently assaulting Eleanor Maud James at Little Entry on 23 July.</p> <p>At the hearing on 11 August testimony was given by Frances Sheppard who stated that on 23 July she was in her father's garden in Back Lane together with her sister, Emily, and her friend, Nellie James. They were sitting on the wall when Thomas Matthews came along, grabbed Nellie James by the dress, pulled up her clothes and put his hand up under her clothes. The girls feared that he was going to pull her over the wall and into the nettles but she was saved when caught by Emily. Thomas Matthews then moved to a corner near the wall where he began to expose himself and continued to do so for some minutes before coming to stand in front of the girls. When Herbert Moon's son came along, Thomas Matthews ran off into his father's garden by climbing over the gates from the lane. Later in the evening Matthews had waited for the girls and, although he ran after them, they were able to escape. Then, on 10 August he had exposed himself again to the girls from behind the doors into his father's garden. Matthews was remanded in custody until 20 August but an arrangement for bail was made with Matthews putting forward £10 of his own money and a further surety of £10 being provided by Arthur</p>	1898/111

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
									<p>money and a further surety of £10 being provided by Arthur Robert Davis Hillier of St Thomas Street, brush manufacturer. For the hearing scheduled for 20 August Emily Denshaw of Back Lane and Annie Cook of Bath Road were summoned as witnesses for the prosecution when Thomas Matthews was also to be charged with indecent exposure. At the hearing on 20 August (see case 1898/114 where there are minutes of the Matthews case) the justices determined that there was some doubt about the case of indecent assault and determined that Matthews should have the benefit of that doubt. The charge of indecent exposure was also examined in detail but no indication of the verdict was shown.</p> <p>Note: the cover document for one set of notes relating to the case indicates that the case was withdrawn.</p> <p>Note: one document refers to the initial incident taking place on 23 July, but evidence given on 20 August recorded that incident as being on 16 July.</p>	
White	Edwin	Trimmer	Charles	13	08	1898	Wilful damage	Wd	<p>Edwin White of Bath Road, farmer, complained that on 30 July Charles Trimmer of St Thomas Street had wilfully damaged a gate in Tor Furlong that was the property of Edwin White himself. Frederick Price of Tor Street and Frank Allen of St Thomas Street were both summoned to give evidence on behalf of the plaintiff. Frank Allen testified that he had seen Charles Trimmer, a boy, pick up stones and throw them at the gate. However, his recollection of the day of the week and the date on which the offence took place differed from that of Edwin White. The justices determined that the evidence was unsatisfactory and there was too great a difference in the dates. They therefore dismissed the case.</p>	1898/112

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Furze	John	Palmer Palmer	Thomas Jane	18	08	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Furze charged Thomas Palmer and Jane Palmer with being drunk and disorderly in Chamberlain Street on 17 August. Sarah Bendall of Chamberlain Street and Lionel Crosse also testified as having encountered the defendants. Sarah Bendall noted that Jane Palmer had come into her inn and was clearly the worse for liquor and very abusive. Lionel Crosse had seen Thomas Palmer threatening and swearing at a young boy using the foulest language. Police serjeant Furze had come to Chamberlain Street because he had heard loud noises and bad language. When he had arrested the Palmers they had been extremely abusive at the police station. Both Thomas Palmer and Jane Palmer were sentenced to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/113
Police		Milton	Elizabeth	20	08	1898	Drunk and disorderly Assault on police officer	D A	Elizabeth Milton was charged with being drunk and disorderly on 19 August. She was seen to be staggering drunkenly about and was nearly run over. She was advised to go to the workhouse. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Elizabeth Milton was also charged with an assault on PC West on the same day. She again pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a further 14 days in prison; this sentence to run consecutively to the first.	1898/114
Police		Owens	Margaret	22	08	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	Margaret Owens was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 20 August. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/115
Police		Cox	Henry	22	08	1898	Drunkenness	D	Henry Cox of Glastonbury was charged with being drunk in Priest Row on 20 August. Cox, who was described as being blind and infirm, pleaded guilty but was discharged by the justices.	1898/116
Police		Cox	Caroline	22	08	1898	Drunkenness	D	Caroline Cox was charged with being drunk in Broad Street on 20 August. She was discharged by the justices.	1898/117
Richards	Thomas Gilbert			22	08	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Thomas Gilbert Richards of West Coker, butcher, applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The White Hart into his name. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1898/118

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Thorn	Harry Francis			29	08	1898	Licence transfer application	La	R Morton, acting as an agent for Harry Francis Thorn, applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Mitre Hotel into the name of his client. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1898/119
Police		White Sallows	James Jeremiah	05	09	1898	Fraud	Fr	James White and Jeremiah Sallows were charged with stealing 1/- from Florence Coley by means of trickery or fraud on 3 September. They were both found guilty and sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/120
Police		White	James	05	09	1898	Pedlar without licence	V	James White was charged with hawking without a pedlar's licence. Robert Hawkins of Beryl Lane, painter, had been in the inn operated by Mr Welchman and he found that White was offering to sell him rings supposedly made from Indian rupees. Hawkins claimed that they were almost certainly fakes since he had some knowledge of Indian rupees. Before White could quote a price Welchman ordered him out of the inn. When White was arrested, he was searched and the rings identified, but he had no pedlar's certificate. He admitted that he did not have one in his possession. White was fined 5/- including costs; the sum was recorded as paid.	1898/121
Upham	William	Wayman	Elizabeth	06	09	1898	Begging in the street	V	PC Upham charged Elizabeth Wayman with begging in Broad Street at around 10.00pm on 5 September. She had already been put out of The Angel Inn. Elizabeth Wayman pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/122
Cribb	Stephen	Crate	Thomas	07	09	1898	Assault	A	Stephen Cribb of Town Hall Buildings complained that he had been assaulted by Thomas Crate of St John Street on 11 August. Crate did not appear at the hearing on 13 September, so the case was adjourned until the next sitting of the petty sessions court.	1898/123
Bisgood	John	Ball	Henry	07	09	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Ball of St Thomas Street, painter, with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 13 August. Ball failed to appear at the hearing on 13 September and in his absence was fined 5/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1898/124

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Bennett	William	07	09	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Bennett of South Street, haulier, with using obscene language in the Market Place on 19 August. Bennett pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs.	1898/125
Bisgood	John	Barnett	John	10	09	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Barnett of South Street, haulier, with using obscene language in High Street on 5 September. Gilbert John Coles of Priest Row, innkeeper, was summoned to provide evidence for the prosecution. Barnett pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/126
Bisgood	John			13	09	1898	Licensing report	*	John Bisgood, deputy chief constable, reported that the number of licensed houses in Wells had remained at the same level as last year. There were 21 fully licensed houses, 13 beer houses, one off-licence and 2 grocers with licences to sell alcohol. In general the licensed properties had been well managed with the exception of The Railway Tavern in Southover where the licensee had been summoned for selling liquor during prohibited hours, although the justices did not consider the evidence sufficient and the case was dismissed. In the last year 44 individuals had been arrested for drunkenness and of these 37 were convicted. 7 of the cases involved individuals who were tramps or passing through the city. The number of convictions was 19 higher than in the previous year.	1898/127
Police		Vincent	John	13	09	1898	Drunkenness	D	John Vincent was charged with being drunk in High Street on 10 August. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs. He asked for time in which to pay the fine and the police raised no objection. He was given until 3 October to pay. Note: this case is only documented in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 September (see case 1898/131).	1898/128
Richards	Mr			13	09	1898	Licence extension application	La	Mr Richards applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence for The White Hart in order to host a Druids' dinner on 14 September. The application was granted.	1898/129
Freeman	Henry			13	09	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Henry Freeman applied for a temporary transfer into his name of the alcohol licence for The King's Arms. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1898/130

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		13	09	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 September. With the exception of the licensing applications (see case 1898/129 and 1898/130) the only case not documented in earlier entries is that against John Vincent for drunkenness (see case 1898/128) for which these minutes represent the only reference.	1898/131
Police		Gould	William	17	09	1898	Sleeping in outhouse	V	William Gould was charged with vagrancy after being found sleeping in an outhouse in Southover on 17 September. He was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/132
Police		Kelly	William	19	09	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	William Kelly was charged with being drunk and disorderly on 18 September. He was fined 5/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison.	1898/133
Coles	Gilbert John	Stephens	Frederick	20	09	1898	Absent without leave	Ab	Gilbert John Coles, job master, complained that Frederick Stephens of Southover, ostler, had absented himself from work without leave. Coles claimed the sum of 18/- in compensation for the unauthorised absence.	1898/134
Bisgood	John	Howe	Samuel	21	09	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Samuel Howe of Street, Somerset, the driver and owner of a horse and trap, with parking that horse and trap in St Thomas Street and obstructing the highway on 15 September. Evidence from PCs Hyett and Upham stated that the horse and trap had been outside Hawkins' house/shop from at least 9.15pm to 9.55pm with no-one in charge or looking after them. Mrs Hawkins claimed that she had been looking after the horse and trap and had been beside the door to the shop from where she had seen the police officers walking up and down. Howe was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/135
Bisgood	John	Mapstone	John	21	09	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Mapstone of Godney, market gardener, owner and driver of a pony and cart, with leaving that pony and cart in High Street and causing an obstruction to the passage of other vehicles. John Mapstone attended the hearing on 10 October in person and pleaded not guilty. PC Upham testified that the pony and cart were parked outside The King's Head at 11.30am and were still there at 12.30pm, while Mapstone was in the pub drinking after he had delivered his vegetables. Mapstone was found guilty and fined 5/- for the offence; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/136

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Free Cribb	Thomas Henry Steven	26	09	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	Thomas Henry Free and Steven Cribb were charged with being drunk and disorderly in the Town Hall on Saturday 24 September. John Wilton testified that Cribb had become so inebriated that he fell off his chair. Police serjeant Knight was called to a disturbance and found both defendants in the bathroom with Free lying on the floor. He took Cribb outside before returning to find Free throwing a table around. Both were found guilty and fined 5/- each plus costs of 2/6d; the sums of 7/6d were recorded as paid.	1898/137
Derrick	Elizabeth Mary	Derrick	Hugh	29	09	1898	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Elizabeth Mary Derrick of No 2 Millers Gardens, St Thomas Street complained that she and her family had been deserted by her husband, Hugh Derrick. He was now living at No 16 Goulds Grounds, Frome and also at Holwell near Frome. She and her husband had been married at St Thomas Church in Wells on 26 June 1892 and in July they had moved together with their daughter to Abercynon in South Wales. They had only been there for around two weeks when her husband had unexpectedly left without any apparent cause. He had apparently gone to Manchester but she was unable to find him there. Soon after she found that he was living in Frome and wrote to him there but never received a reply. Around 7 months ago she went to Frome and saw him at the Frome United Brewery where he was working but he refused her request to provide maintenance for his daughter. Hugh Derrick stated that their daughter had been born around 3 to 4 months after their wedding and their initial time together was difficult because his wife frequently came home drunk. He also said that when she came to Frome to see him he had asked her to come back and be his wife again but she had refused. At the hearing on 12 October the justices ruled that Hugh Derrick's desertion had been proven, that Elizabeth Mary Derrick should no longer be required to cohabit with her husband, that she should have custody of their daughter until she reached the age of 16, that Hugh Derrick should pay her 3/- per week for maintenance with the first payment being due on 19 October and that Hugh Derrick should also pay the sum of 9/6d for the costs of the case.	1898/138

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Rodgers	William	30	09	1898	Furious driving	Rd	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Rodgers of Coxley, labourer, with furious driving of a horse and carriage in St Cuthbert Street on 21 September. Frederick J Dowling of No 2 Green Bank Villa was called as a witness for the prosecution. Rodgers pleaded not guilty but was fined 5/- including costs to be paid immediately, or to serve 7 days in prison. Rodgers asked for time in which to pay the fine and was granted one month.	1898/139
Bisgood	John	Marshall	John	30	09	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Marshall of St Thomas Street, labourer, with using obscene language on Cathedral Green on 21 September. A note containing the words allegedly used by Marshall was provided to the justices. Marshall pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs. He was granted 14 days within which to make the payment since he was out of work.	1898/140
Justices		Lowman Dowling Thorn Hawkins Brown Chapman Bell Chapple Bray	Joseph Frederick Henry John Henry William Henry Frederick Walter William Frederick	01	10	1898	Appointment of special constables	*	The justices issued a list of nominees who had agreed to act as special constables for the next year. Those listed were: - Joseph Lowman of Sadler Street - Frederick Dowling of Burcot Road - Henry Thorn of St Cuthbert Street - John Henry Hawkins of Priest Row - William Henry Brown of South Street - Frederick Chapman of Southover - Walter Bell of Islington Cottage - William Chapple of South Street - Frederick Bray of St Thomas Street At the petty sessions sitting on 10 October all those nominated took the oath of office and were sworn in as special constables.	1898/141

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Brown	Henry	Francis Francis Price	Westley Edward William	03	10	1898	Assault	A	Henry Brown of Bath Road in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, quarryman, complained that on 1 October Westley Francis and Edward Francis, both of Coxley and both described as hauliers, together with William Price of The Lamb Inn, St Thomas Street, quarryman, had assaulted and beaten him. He claimed that he had been in The Crown Inn and had walked through the tap where he was challenged by Edward Francis who claimed that he was interfering with their work at the quarry. Brown's response provoked Westley Francis to attack him and strike him in the jaw with his fist. The blow knocked Brown to the floor and all three defendants then proceeded to punch and kick Brown while he was on the floor. The landlord, Stanley Lyne Welchman, proceeded to evict the three defendants one by one, but until they were all ejected the attacks on Brown continued. John Wilton of Southover, billposter, who had helped Brown to clean up his face which was badly bloodied, and George Cribb of Town Hall Buildings, labourer, were summoned as witnesses to give evidence for the plaintiff, while Sarah Francis of Coxley, wife of Edward Francis, was called upon to provide evidence on behalf of the defendant, William Price. All three defendants were found guilty with Westley Francis and Edward Francis each being fined £1 including costs, while William Price was fined 10/- including costs.	1898/142
Brown	Henry	Francis Francis	Westley Edward	03	10	1898	Wilful damage	Wd	Henry Brown of Bath Road in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, quarryman, complained that on 1 October Westley Francis and Edward Francis, both of Coxley and both described as hauliers, had wilfully damaged his coat. Brown claimed that that his coat had been damaged when he was assaulted by Westley and Edward Francis (see case 1898/142) and his hat, which was relatively new and hardly been worn, had gone missing in the struggle and could not be found. Both defendants pleaded not guilty but the justices found against them and each was required to pay 5/- to cover the costs of the case and the costs of the damage to the coat and hat.	1898/143

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Welchman	Stanley Lyne	Francis Francis Price	Westley Edward William	03	10	1898	Refusing to quit licensed premises	L	Stanley Lyne Welchman of The Crown Inn, licensed victualler, became heavily involved in the scuffle that took place in his establishment on 1 October when Westley Francis and Edward Francis, both of Coxley and both described as hauliers, together with William Price of The Lamb Inn, St Thomas Street, quarryman, had assaulted Henry Brown (see case 1898/142). Welchman had personally ejected each of the three defendants in the course of the scuffle and explicitly told them not to return. However, all three had come back into the bar and acted in a violent and disorderly manner. As a result Welchman had asked them to leave, but they had refused, placing themselves in breach of the Licensing Act. All three defendants pleaded not guilty, but the justices found them guilty and each was required to pay the sum of 10/- including costs.	1898/144
Welchman	Stanley Lyne	Price	William	03	10	1898	Assault	A	Stanley Lyne Welchman of The Crown Inn, licensed victualler, complained that he had been assaulted on 1 October by William Price of The Lamb Inn in St Thomas Street, quarryman. Welchman testified that the assault had occurred when Price had returned to the bar after the fracas with Henry Brown (see case 1898/142) and Welchman had asked him to leave the premises because of his violent and unruly behaviour (see case 1898/144). Price pleaded not guilty to the offence but was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs.	1898/145
Francis	Edward	Brown	Henry	03	10	1898	Assault	A	Edward Francis of Coxley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, haulier, complained that on 1 October he had been unlawfully assaulted and beaten by Henry Brown of Bath Road in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, quarryman. Francis claimed that when he had been ejected from the bar, he tried to go back in to get his hat, but Brown hit him in the face. Testimony from other witnesses regarding the fight in the bar (see case 1898/142) suggested that no-one had seen Brown strike a blow against anyone. Brown pleaded not guilty and, after hearing the evidence, the justices dismissed the case.	1898/146
Salmon	Henry L	Various		06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry L Salmon for the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor reported that various individuals had failed to pay the poor rate set on 24 June 1898. The individuals concerned and the amounts of debt involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1898/147

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Salmon	Henry L	Weaver	Edward	06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Edward Weaver of Union Street was recorded as owing £1.13s.2d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of £1.15s.8d. The justices authorised the issue of a distress order to recover the debt.	1898/147a
Salmon	Henry L	Barber	James	06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	James Barber of Southover was recorded as owing 7/1d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of 9/7d. The justices determined that a distress order should be issued forthwith.	1898/147b
Salmon	Henry L	Bond	Henry	06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry Bond of Rowdens Road was recorded as owing 4/6d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of 7/-. Bond attended the hearing of 10 October in person and stated that he had not received a demand note. He paid the outstanding rate and the costs were remitted.	1898/147c
Salmon	Henry L	Watts	Ellen	06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Ellen Watts of St Cuthbert Street was recorded as owing 11/11d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of 14/5d.	1898/147d
Salmon	Henry L	Knight	Richard	06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Richard Knight of Ethel Street was recorded as owing 12/10d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of 15/4d. At the hearing on 10 October the justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant forthwith.	1898/147e
Salmon	Henry L	Marsh	Henry	06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry Marsh, formerly of Priest Row, but now of Priory Place, was recorded as owing 7/- for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of 9/6d. At the hearing on 10 October the justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant but requested a delay of one week before it was issued in order to allow Marsh the opportunity to settle the debt.	1898/147f
Salmon	Henry L	Trimmer	Alfred	06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Alfred Trimmer of St Thomas Street, where he was responsible for the poor rate for several properties, was recorded as owing £1.19s.1d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of £2.1s.7d. At the hearing on 10 October the justices ordered the issue of a distress warrant. A note on the list of outstanding debts showed that the amount owing had been reduced by 6/1d in respect of one property for which another individual was responsible. This reduced the poor rate debt to £1.13s.0d. The justices authorised the issue of a distress order.	1898/147g
Salmon	Henry L	Barrett	Henry	06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry Barrett late of St Cuthbert Street but now of Croscombe was recorded as owing 9/2d for the poor rate plus a further 2/6d for costs giving a total of 11/8d.	1898/147h

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Salmon	Henry L	Blinman	Henry George	06	10	1898	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry George Blinman late of Priest Row but now of The Blake Arms in Bridgwater was recorded as owing £1.7s.3d for the poor rate plus a further 3/6d for costs giving a total of £1.10s.9d.	1898/147i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1898/148
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 5 October Jane White had made no attendances while the school was open for 56 attendances. Jane White, aged 12, was recorded as working at standard II. The hearing on 10 October was attended by one of Joseph White's daughters. Joseph White was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith. Note: Joseph White was previously recorded as living in St Thomas Street, but see the case brought by Alfred Trimmer on 2 August (case 1898/102).	1898/148a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Kate White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 5 October Kate White had made only 15 attendances while the school was open for 56 attendances. Kate White, aged 9, was recorded as working at standard II. The hearing on 10 October was attended by one of Joseph White's daughters. Joseph White was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith. Note: Joseph White was previously noted as living in St Thomas Street, but see the case brought by Alfred Trimmer on 2 August (case 1898/102).	1898/148b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of her son, Frederick Cole. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending on 30 September Frederick Cole had made only 7 attendances when the school was open for 47 attendances. Frederick Cole, aged 12, was recorded as working in standard III. The hearing on 10 October was attended by a daughter of Mary Jane Cole. Mary Jane Cole was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith. Note: the name given in the case documents is Mary Ann Cole; in previous cases it has been shown either as Mary Jane Cole or as Mary Ann Cole then modified to Mary Jane Cole. In this instance the name is not modified in the October documents but is shown here as Mary Jane Cole for consistency.	1898/148c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of her son, Thomas Cole. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending on 30 September Thomas Cole had made only 29 attendances when the school was open for 39 attendances. Thomas Cole, aged 9, was recorded as working in standard II. The hearing on 10 October was attended by a daughter of Mary Jane Cole. Mary Jane Cole was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith. Note: the name given in this case is Mary Ann Cole; in previous cases it has been shown either as Mary Jane Cole or as Mary Ann Cole then modified to Mary Jane Cole. In this instance the name is not modified in the October documents but Mary Jane Cole is used for consistency.	1898/148d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hoskins	George	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Hoskins of No 12 St Cuthbert Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Henry Hoskins. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period to 30 September Henry Hoskins had made only 34 attendances when the school was open for 47 attendances. Henry Hoskins, aged 11, was recorded as working in standard III. George Hoskins attended the hearing on 10 October in person and was fined 1/-; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/148e

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bowell	Sydenham	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Sydenham Bowell of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Frank Bowell. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period to 30 September Frank Bowell had made only 32 attendances when the school was open for 47 attendances. Frank Bowell, aged 11, was recorded as working in standard I. Sydenham Bowell's wife attended the hearing on 10 October where the case was dismissed on the promise of improved attendance.	1898/148f
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Edith Edwards. Katherine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period to 30 September Edith Edwards had made only 55 attendances when the school was open for 95 attendances. Edith Edwards, aged 9, was reported to be working in standard I. George Edwards' wife attended the hearing on 10 October and reported that their daughter was ill. The case was adjourned pending the production of a medical certificate. At the petty sessions sitting on 14 November George Edwards attended and produced the medical certificate. Edwards was fined 5/- to be paid forthwith; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/148g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hatcher	Alfred	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred Hatcher of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Emily Hatcher. Katherine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period to 30 September Emily Hatcher had made only 59 attendances when the school was open for 95 attendances. Emily Hatcher, aged 10, was recorded as working at standard I. Alfred Hatcher's wife attended the hearing on 10 October and the case was adjourned until the next sitting of the petty sessions court. At the petty sessions sitting on 14 November Alfred Hatcher's wife appears to have attended and the name of the child concerned in the case changed from Emily to Alice. Alfred Hatcher was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith.	1898/148h

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Say	Thomas	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Say of Priest Row was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Ellen Say. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period to 5 October Ellen Say had made only 12 attendances when the school was open for 56 attendances. Ellen Say, aged 11, was recorded as working in standard VI. The hearing on 10 October was attended by Thomas Say's wife. Thomas Say was fined 1/-.	1898/148i
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Stevens	Alfred John	06	10	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred John Stevens of No 1 Green's Place, Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Annie Stevens. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period to 5 October Annie Stevens had made only 26 attendances when the school was open for 56 attendances. Annie Stevens, aged 12, was recorded as working in standard IV. Alfred John Stevens attended the hearing on 10 October and was fined 1/-; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/148j
Morton	R			10	10	1898	Licence transfer application	La	R Morton, acting on behalf of his client, requested a transfer of the alcohol licence for The Mitre Hotel. The request was granted. Note: the application is documented only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 October (see case 1898/151). Note: the name of the client is unclear. In an earlier case Morton had acted for Fanny Dunn (see case 1898/022) and one name in the minutes appears to be Dunn but the remaining information in the transaction is simply not clear.	1898/149
Richards	Thomas Gilbert			10	10	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Thomas Gilbert Richards applied for a transfer of the alcohol licence (for The White Hart?) into his name. The application was granted. Note: the application is recorded only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 October (see case 1898/151).	1898/150
Justices		Various		10	10	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 October. With the exception of the licence transfer applications (see cases 1898/149 and 1898/150) all the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes incorporated in these entries. The major portion of the minutes deals with the cases involving Henry Brown, Westley and Edward Francis and James Price (see case 1898/142 to 1898/146 inclusive).	1898/151

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hyett	Henry	Lawless	Robert	17	10	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Henry Hyett charged Robert Lawless with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 16 October. Lawless had been shouting loudly and making so much noise that most of the residents of Southover had come to their doors. Lawless was so drunk that he had been refused drink at two places in Southover. He was found guilty and fined 5/- plus costs of 3/- or to spend 7 days in prison. It was noted that Lawless had gone to prison.	1898/152
Trimmer	Alfred	Hatcher	Alfred	24	10	1898	Eviction order	Ev	On 8 October Alfred Trimmer of No 51 St Thomas Street issued to Alfred Hatcher a notice to quit the cottage and garden that he was renting from Trimmer at No 49 St Thomas Street. The tenancy was held on a weekly basis at a rent of 2/6d per week. The notice specified a date of 15 October as the end date of the tenancy. Alfred Hatcher did not give up the tenancy as required and on 24 October. Alfred Trimmer issued a further notice that stated he would be seeking a formal possession order for the property on 3 November. This was duly initiated as the property had not been surrendered by Alfred Hatcher. At the petty sessions sitting on 14 November the justices determined that the possession order would become effective in 21 days.	1898/153
Phipps	Elizabeth Eliza	Weare	Thomas	29	10	1898	Bastardy	B	Elizabeth Eliza Phipps of No 9 Southover, single woman, reported that she had given birth to a child out of wedlock on 20 October 1898 and named the putative father as Thomas Weare of Muriel Terrace, Rowden's Road, labourer. At the hearing on 12 December the justices determined that, on the basis of the evidence presented, Thomas Weare was the putative father of the child and that he should be required to contribute the sum of 2/- per week for the maintenance and support of the child until it reached the age of 13. In addition the justices also ruled that Thomas Weare should pay to Elizabeth Eliza Phipps the sum of £2 for the expenses incidental to the birth of the child and he should also pay a further sum of 17/6d for the costs incurred in obtaining the maintenance order.	1898/154

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bird	Ernest Edward	Hawkins Hawkins	Charles Frederick	31	10	1898	Assault	A	Ernest Edward Bird of St Thomas Street, quarryman, complained that he had been unlawfully assaulted on 29 October by Charles Hawkins and Frederick Hawkins of Tor Street, both described as quarrymen. George Edwards and George Ford, both of St Thomas Street, were called as witnesses to give evidence for the plaintiff, while Edward Hanney and William Matthews testified for the defendants. Bird stated that he had gone into The Goat Inn and found Charles and Frederick Hawkins there. He exchanged a few words with Frederick Hawkins who had then got up and struck him. Bird suggested that they take their disagreement outside and Charles Hawkins said that if you fight one of my family you'll also fight me. Bird then claimed that when they got outside the two men attacked him, kicking and biting. Then the police came and broke up the scuffle. Testimony from the witnesses was broadly in line with Bird's version except that the witness for the defence suggested that no blows had been struck inside the bar. The justices took the view that both sides were culpable and the case was dismissed.	1898/155
Fry	Sarah	Hawkins	Charles	31	10	1898	Assault	A	Sarah Fry of St Thomas Street complained that on 29 October she had been assaulted by Charles Hawkins of Tor Street, quarryman. Sarah Fry stated that she had come out of her house in St Thomas Street to find three men fighting by the kerb (see case 1898/155). Charles Hawkins had told her to get out of the way and had shoved her away, causing them both to fall to the ground. John Henry Toomer had pulled Hawkins off her but as this happened Hawkins struck her in the eye. The case was recorded as being dismissed.	1898/156
Bisgood	John	Allen	John	02	11	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Allen of Wookey Hole in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, baker, with wilfully obstructing the highway in St John Street on 11 October by parking a horse and waggon there. Allen pleaded not guilty. PC Hyett testified that at around 6.15pm he saw the horse and waggon parked outside The Golden Heart with no-one in attendance. He watched it for 25 minutes and then as he went into The Golden Heart he met Allen on the doorstep. Allen was found guilty and fined 1/- including costs; the fine was shown as paid.	1898/157

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Price	Jane	02	11	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Jane Price of South Street, mill hand, with being drunk and disorderly in St John Street on 17 October. Jane Price pleaded not guilty but evidence from PC Mason indicated that at around 6.30pm she was staggering drunk in St John Street and unable to stand. She was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison.	1898/158
Bisgood	John	Bryant Bown Phipps Woolford	Reginald Ernest Joseph Albert	02	11	1898	Obstructing the footway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Reginald Bryant, Ernest Bown and Joseph Phipps, all of Southover, together with Albert Woolford of St John Street, with obstructing the footway in High Street on 22 October by standing together in a group on the pavement and forcing passers-by to step into the road in order to get past them. All the defendants pleaded guilty and they were each fined 1/- including costs. All the defendants paid the fines imposed.	1898/159
Knight	James	Rowe	Samuel	02	11	1898	Begging in the street	V	Police serjeant Knight charged Samuel Rowe with begging in Sadler Street on 1 November. William Charles was a witness to the offence. Rowe pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour.	1898/160
Knight	James	Hatcher	Albert William Alfred	08	11	1898	Theft	T	Police serjeant James Knight charged Albert William Alfred Hatcher with stealing a plum pudding basin from The Swan Hotel with a value of 3/- on 8 November. Witnesses were recorded as police serjeant Knight, PC Henry Hyett and Alice James. The defendant was found guilty and was bound over under the provisions of the act governing first offenders. Note: it is not certain that all three forenames are actually applicable to the defendant.	1898/161
Bisgood	John	Bird Hawkins Hawkins	Ernest Edward Charles Frederick	10	11	1898	Affray	Af	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Edward Bird of St Thomas Street, Charles Hawkins of Tor Street and Frederick Hawkins of Tor Street, all described as labourers, with making an affray in St Thomas Street on 29 October. John Henry Toomer of St Thomas Street was called as a witness for the prosecution. All three defendants pleaded guilty to the charge and were bound over in the sum of £5 each to keep the peace for 6 months. In addition they were required to pay the sum of 4/4d each to cover the costs of the case; all the defendants paid the fines involved.	1898/162

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Hatcher	Alfred	10	11	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Alfred Hatcher, late of St Thomas Street and now of Southover, labourer, with using obscene language in High Street on 31 October. At the hearing on 14 November Alfred Thatcher's wife appeared but the case was adjourned for one week. At the hearing on 21 November Alfred Hatcher was found guilty and fined 5/- to be paid forthwith or to serve 7 days in prison. The fine was recorded as paid.	1898/163
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		10	11	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1898/164
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Sage	Frank	10	11	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Frank Sage of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Frances Sage. Katherine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period to 31 October Frances Sage had made no attendances when the school was open for 114 attendances. Frances Sage, aged 12, was recorded as working at standard V. At the hearing on 14 November the case was adjourned for one month. At the hearing on 12 December the attendance of the child was reported as having been satisfactory over the most recent period and as a result the case against Frank Sage was dismissed.	1898/164a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	10	11	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of her son, Frederick Cole. On this occasion Mary Jane Cole was required to bring her son, Frederick, to the petty sessions sitting of 14 November. At that sitting it was noted that Frederick would reach the age of 13 on 5 April 1899 and would therefore no longer be on the school books. Mary Jane Cole was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith.	1898/164b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	10	11	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Southover was summoned because of the poor attendance record of his daughter, Jane White. On this occasion Joseph White was required to bring his daughter, Jane, to the petty sessions sitting on 14 November. At that sitting Joseph White's wife attended. It was reported that Jane White's work was considered to be of standard I. However, Jane White was now not on the school books because she reached the age of 13 on 5 November 1898. Joseph White was fined 5/- to be paid forthwith.	1898/164c
Thatcher	Frank Carter	White	Joseph	11	11	1898	Maintenance order	Mo	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer, complained that Joseph White was not contributing to the support of his daughter, Alice White, who had become chargeable to the common fund of the Wells Union on 20 July 1898. Thatcher described Alice White as a poor person who was unable to work and maintain herself and likely to continue in that condition. Thatcher had assessed Joseph White of Southover, Alice's father, as having sufficient means to assist in the support of his daughter and requested that a maintenance order be issued to require him to contribute to her keep.	1898/165
Oakhill Brewery Co				14	11	1898	Licence application change	La	The Oakhill Brewery Co applied to alter and extend the master room at The King's Head. The application was approved. Note: the name of the individual making the application is shown in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 November (see case 1898/171), but it is difficult to establish what the name might be.	1898/166
Welchman	Stanley Lyne			14	11	1898	Licence extension application	La	Stanley Lyne Welchman applied for an extension of his alcohol licence at The Crown Inn on the occasion of St Andrew's Fair. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1898/167
Cock	Roland Charles			14	11	1898	Vaccination exemption	Ve	Roland Charles Cock applied for a vaccination exemption for his daughter, Gwendoline Mary Cock, born on 13 October 1897 and said to be in perfect health. He stated that he consciously believed that the vaccination would be injurious to the health of an infant. His request for exemption was granted.	1898/168

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Morelle	James Issrell			14	11	1898	Vaccination exemption	Ve	James Issrell Monelle applied for a vaccination exemption for his son, Arthur James Monelle, born 20 April 1897. His request for exemption was granted. Note: both the middle name and the surname of the applicant could be subject to different readings.	1898/169
Rummings	Charles Henry			14	11	1898	Vaccination exemption	Ve	Charles Henry Rummings of South Street applied for a vaccination exemption for his daughter, Winifred Lora Ann Rummings, born 20 April 1897 on the grounds of conscientious objection to the vaccine. His request for exemption was granted. Note: the second forename of the child could be open to many different interpretations.	1898/170
Justices		Various		14	11	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 14 November. Most of the cases heard are recorded in earlier documents and relevant details from the minutes incorporated. No other documentation is available for two licence extension applications (see cases 1898/166 and 1898/167) and three vaccination exemption requests (see cases 1898/168 to 1898/170 inclusive).	1898/171
Police		Clifford	Frederick	01	12	1898	Begging in the street	V	Frederick Clifford was charged with begging in St Thomas Street on 30 November. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/172
Knight	James	Chisholm	Edward	02	12	1898	Owning a dog with no licence	DI	Police serjeant James Knight charged Edward Chisholm of Broad Street, ostler, with owning a dog for which he had no valid licence. The offence was identified on 24 November. Chisholm pleaded guilty to the charge but stated that the dog had now been sold. He was fined 5/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid. Note: the surname of the defendant appears to be shown as 'Chishlomn' in the documentation but it is assumed that the surname was 'Chisholm'	1898/173
Police		Allington	Mary	05	12	1898	Drunk and disorderly	D	Mary Allington was charged with being drunk and disorderly on Cathedral Green on 4 December. At the time of her arrest she had no money on her person. She pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 21 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/174

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	06	12	1898	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	After several summons to Mary Jane Cole under the Education Act had failed to persuade her to take action to ensure her son, Frederick Cole, received an appropriate education, the justices summoned her again to appear before them on 12 December. Mary Jane Cole did not appear at that petty sessions sitting and the justices took a decision that from that point on Frederick Cole must attend the public elementary school in St John Street on every occasion that it was open.	1898/175
Bisgood	John	Various		06	12	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, issued summons to a number of traders who had set up their pitches in the Market Place for St Andrew's Fair. The police asserted that the traders had set up too early and had caused an obstruction for other users of the Market Place. The traders argued that they were simply doing what they had done in previous years but the authorities seemed to have tried to change the rules without adequate notice to them. At the petty sessions sitting on 12 December (see minutes of meeting at 1898/185) testimony was received from William Henry Jenkins, toll collector for the city of Wells regarding the issue of permits for the traders. George Cole of GWR and Frank Gage testified about the inconvenience to them that the obstruction had caused. In the end the justices determined that this was a matter over which they had no jurisdiction. The names of the traders and any particular circumstances relevant to them are noted in subsequent entries.	1898/176
Bisgood	John	Hill	Marshall	06	12	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Marshall Hill of Coaley, Gloucestershire, switchback proprietor and apparently spokesman for the traders, with obstructing the highway in the Market Place on 5 December by leaving 11 vans parked there for a long and unreasonable time and without just cause.	1898/176a
Bisgood	John	Whitley	William	06	12	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Whitley of Bristol, with obstructing the highway in the Market Place on 5 December by leaving 2 vans parked there for a long and unreasonable time and without just cause.	1898/176b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgood	John	Baker	James	06	12	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Baker of South Street with obstructing the highway in the Market Place on 5 December by leaving a van parked there for a long and unreasonable time and without just cause.	1898/176c
Bisgood	John	Mauley	William	06	12	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Mauley of Burnham, Somerset, with obstructing the highway in the Market Place on 5 December by leaving 2 vans parked there for a long and unreasonable time and without just cause.	1898/176d
Bisgood	John	Hayes	Henry	06	12	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Henry Hayes of London with obstructing the highway in the Market Place on 5 December by leaving a van parked there for a long and unreasonable time and without just cause.	1898/176e
Bisgood	John	Coneley	William	06	12	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged William Coneley of Petersfield, Hampshire, with obstructing the highway in the Market Place on 5 December by leaving 2 vans parked there for a long and unreasonable time and without just cause. Note: the surname of the defendant is also shown as Conelly on the cover document for the case.	1898/176f
Bisgood	John	Willington	James	06	12	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged James Willington of Bristol with obstructing the highway in the Market Place on 5 December by leaving 4 vans parked there for a long and unreasonable time and without just cause.	1898/176g
Bisgood	John	Jones	John	06	12	1898	Obstructing the highway	O	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged John Jones of Bristol with obstructing the highway in the Market Place on 5 December by leaving 5 vans parked there for a long and unreasonable time and without just cause.	1898/176h
Maitland	James Sampson	Hillier & Sons Limited		07	12	1898	Offence against factory and workshop regulations	Fw	James Sampson Maitland, HM Inspector of Factories and Workshops, reported that an inspection of the Garden Works at Wells operated by Hillier & Sons Limited showed that an unfenced circular saw constituted a danger to employees and offended against the provisions of the Acts governing factory operations. It was noted that one man had sustained an injury from the saw and that a previous warning about the danger that it posed had been administered. A R D Hillier, on behalf of the firm, pleaded guilty to the offence. The firm was fined £1 including costs.	1898/177

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Loxton	William	08	12	1898	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight charged William Loxton of South Street with using obscene language in the Market Place on 6 December. The documentation includes a note setting out the words allegedly used by William Loxton. Loxton had been seen and heard by PCs Hyett and Mason. Although he pleaded not guilty, Loxton was fined 10/- including costs and given one hour within which to pay or to go to prison for 7 days. The fine was recorded as paid.	1898/178
Bendall	Samuel			12	12	1898	Vaccination exemption	Ve	Samuel Bendall applied for a vaccination exemption for his son, Samuel Israel Lovell Bendall, who was born on 17 August 1898. He stated that it was his considered belief that the vaccination was prejudicial to the health of a child. His request was granted.	1898/179
Jacob	Herbert			12	12	1898	Vaccination exemption	Ve	Herbert Jacob applied for a vaccination exemption for his daughter, Winifred Annie Jacob, who was born on 4 April 1898. He stated that the child was very delicate. His request was granted. Note: the plaintiff has at least one additional forename - and this may be Henry - but the entry is far from clear.	1898/180
Castle	George			12	12	1898	Vaccination exemption	Ve	George Castle of St Thomas Street applied for a vaccination exemption for his son, George, who was born on 11 April 1898. Castle stated that it was his belief that the vaccination would be prejudicial to the health of the child. His request was granted on payment of the fee of 2/-.	1898/181
Weare	William			12	12	1898	Vaccination exemption	Ve	William Weare of Union Street applied for a vaccination exemption for his son, Frederick William Weare, who was born on 28 August 1897. Weare stated that he was a conscientious objector with a belief that the vaccination would be prejudicial to the health of the child. It was noted that Weare had two other children. His request was refused.	1898/182
Tate	A J			12	12	1898	Licence transfer application	La	An application was made to transfer the alcohol licence for The Railway Tavern from Thomas Brophy to A J Tate. The transfer was approved on payment of the fee of 8/6d.	1898/183
Middle	Sarah Kate			12	12	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Sarah Kate Middle requested the temporary transfer into her name of the alcohol licence for The Goat Inn. The request was granted.	1898/184

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Justices		Various		12	12	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 December. Most of the cases heard are already recorded in earlier documents with relevant details from the minutes incorporated. Cases which are documented only in these minutes are four vaccination exemption requests (cases 1898/179 to 1898/182 inclusive) and two alcohol licence transfer requests (cases 1898/183 and 1898/184).	1898/185
Knight	James	Chambers	Margaret	14	12	1898	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Knight charged Margaret Chambers with being drunk on the Glastonbury Road near the workhouse at around 9.30pm on 13 December. Knight had previously encountered the defendant when she had been to the police station at around 9.00pm asking for a ticket for the workhouse. Knight had refused her request because she had clearly been drinking. When she left the police station he asked PC Hyett to make certain that she was not in any difficulty. PC Hyett had found Chambers lying against a wall, quite drunk and not capable of taking care of herself. He had difficulty in getting her back to the police station and into the cells because she was so drunk. Margaret Chambers was apparently heading for Torquay, but at the time of her arrest she had no money on her. She was found guilty of drunkenness and fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1898/186
Bellamy	John J	Bowell	William	15	12	1898	Weights and measures	Wm	John J Bellamy of East Twerton near Bath, inspector of weights and measures, complained that William Bowell of Charles Place, Southover, had failed to deliver to Arthur Sheard Radnedge a quantity of coal exceeding 2cwt that Radnedge had purchased from Chapman & Sons and for which a ticket had been issued. At the hearing on 19 December William Bowell was found guilty of failing in his responsibility to deliver the coal and the associated ticket, and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/187

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bellamy	John J	Hancock	James	15	12	1898	Weights and measures	Wm	John J Bellamy of East Twerton near Bath, Inspector of Weights and Measures, complained that on 1 December James Hancock of St Cuthbert Street, manager of the New Rock Coal Company, had sold an amount of coal exceeding 2cwt to William Mogg but had failed to supply to William Mogg a ticket or note detailing the weight of the coal and other particulars as required by the Weights and Measures Act. The delivery was carried out by an employee of Edward Francis of Coxley, hauliers, but, when approached by Bellamy, the employee said that he had not been given a ticket to give to the customer. Apparently, the required ticket had not been issued by James Hancock. Although Hancock pleaded not guilty, the justices found against him and he was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/188
Bellamy	John J	Russell	John	15	12	1898	Weights and measures	Wm	John J Bellamy of East Twerton near Bath, Inspector of Weights and Measures, complained that on 1 December John Russell of Burcott House in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert had sold an amount of coal exceeding 2cwt to Robert Powell Jefford but had failed to supply to Robert Powell Jefford a ticket or note detailing the weight of the coal and other particulars as required by the Weights and Measures Act. When Russell was making the delivery he was approached by Bellamy and asked for the relevant ticket. He produced a ticket from his pocket but it did not have the required details on it. Russell was found guilty and was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/189
Justices		Various		19	12	1898	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 19 December. This session was devoted entirely to the cases brought by John J Bellamy, Inspector of Weights and Measures; see cases 1898/187 to 1898/189 inclusive for details.	1898/190

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hillier & Sons Limited		Bruford	Alfred Morris	19	12	1898	Absent without leave	Ab	Hillier & Sons Limited complained that Alfred Morris Bruford, an apprentice in the firm since 6 April 1894, had absented himself from work without leave during working hours on 19 December. Alfred Bruford, the boy's father, wrote to the justices to apologise for his son's absence, to assure them that it would not occur again and to plead for lenient treatment of this offence. Hillier & Sons claimed compensation of 5/- for Bruford's absence since it had led to a delay in fulfilling orders that had been dependent upon his work. At the hearing on 30 December the justices ordered that Bruford should comply with the terms of his 6-year apprenticeship.	1898/191
Bumstead	Stephen			19	12	1898	Licence transfer application	La	Stephen Bumstead requested that the alcohol licence for The Foresters Arms be temporarily transferred into his name from that of John Morgan. The request was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: this request is only documented on the petty sessions notes relating to the case of Hillier & Sons v Bruford (see case 1898/191).	1898/192
Pearce	Susan	Munday	Alfred	21	12	1898	Eviction order	Ev	Susan Pearce testified that she was the owner of a property in Southover described as a stable and yard that had been occupied by Alfred Munday of Southover, marine store dealer, since the previous February at a rent of 1/3d per week. Through her agent, Alexander Benford, she had served Munday with a notice to quit by 19 December but he was still in possession of the property, although he had claimed that he would clear it as requested. Susan Pearce therefore advised Munday that she would apply for a possession order at the petty sessions sitting on 9 January 1899 (see minutes of the meeting at 1899/008) and this was granted by the justices to come into effect in 22 days time.	1898/193

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bellamy	John James	Connock	John	30	12	1898	Weights and measures	Wm	John James Bellamy of East Twerton, Inspector of Weights and Measures, reported that he had seen John Connock delivering coal to two customers at No 5 Priest Row on 19 December 1898. There were 4 bags on the hand truck to be delivered and when Connock was delivering the third Bellamy asked to see the weighing machine stamped by an authorised inspector that was a requirement for deliveries of 2cwt or less. Connock had no weighing machine with him and was therefore unable to meet the legal requirement. He was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1898/194
Bellamy	John James	Locke	Walter William	30	12	1898	Weights and measures	Wm	John James Bellamy of East Twerton, Inspector of Weights and Measures, reported that Walter William Locke of High Street, baker and confectioner, had been using a spring balance to weigh bread that gave incorrect readings and was unjust to customers. On 21 December Bellamy had stopped Lewis Locke, son of Walter William Locke, who was delivering bread with a pony and trap. Bellamy asked to check the spring balance that Lewis Locke was using to weigh the bread and found that it was unjust by 1/2oz. Walter William Locke pleaded guilty and was fined £1 plus costs of 6/- and the spring balance was to be forfeited. The fine and costs were recorded as paid.	1898/195

1899

Hyett	Henry	Shields	John	02	01	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	John Shields was charged with using obscene language in St John Street on 31 December 1898. He pleaded guilty to the charge, having been arrested by PC Hyett at around 5.00pm near The Foresters' Arms. He was reported as going quietly to the police station. Shields was found guilty and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/001
Hyett	Henry	Shields	John	02	01	1899	Assault	A	John Shields was charged with assaulting Leah Stevens, a young child, in St John Street at around 4.45pm on 31 December 1898. Thomas Wilmott of South Street testified that he had seen Shields strike Leah Stevens over the head with a stick near The Golden Heart. The child had run home in tears. Shields pleaded not guilty but the justices found against him and he was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/002

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Trevors	Hannah	02	01	1899	Drunkenness	D	Hannah Trevors, said to be originally from Ireland, was charged with being drunk in High Street on 31 December 1898. At the time of her arrest she had no cash on her person. She pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- or to spend 7 days in prison. Hannah Trevors went to gaol.	1899/003
Webb	William Henry	Glanville	Walter	04	01	1899	Refusal to quit licensed premises	L	William Henry Webb of High Street, beerhouse keeper, brought a complaint against Walter Glanville of Southover stating that he had become disorderly but refused a request from the landlord (Webb himself) to leave licensed premises on 3 January and had therefore placed himself in breach of the Licensing Act. Glanville pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 10/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison. He was granted one week within which to pay. Note: Glanville was also charged with assault against Ann Cox as part of the same incident (see case 1899/005).	1899/004
Cox	Ann	Glanville	Walter	05	01	1899	Assault	A	Ann Cox of South Street complained that she had been assaulted by Walter Glanville on 3 January at the inn run by William Webb (see also case 1899/004). She testified that when Glanville had come into the bar he had sat in a chair by the fire close to her and had put his hand on her knee and tried to kiss her. She had thrown a coat at him and he had thrown it back at her. He had then got up and struck her twice in the face with his fists. Her version of the incident was corroborated by testimony from Ephraim Baker of St Cuthbert Street. Glanville pleaded not guilty to the charge but was found guilty by the justices who fined him 10/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison. He was given one week within which to pay.	1899/005
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	09	01	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, reported that Henry Oxley still had an outstanding debt of 7/6d for the general district rate. Oxley was ordered to pay the outstanding debt and the associated costs and the justices requested the issue of a distress order as a means to recovering the debt. Note: the only record of this case is in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 January.	1899/006

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hyett	Henry	Chapple	James	09	01	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Hyett charged James Chapple with being drunk and disorderly in Queen Street on 8 January. Hyett testified that Chapple had gathered a substantial crowd around him as he made loud and drunken progress along Queen Street with boys running after him. Initially Chapple resisted arrest but quietened when PC Mason also became involved. Chapple pleaded not guilty to the offence but the justices found against him and he was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: the only record of this case can be found in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 January.	1899/007
Justices		Various		09	01	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 January. The cases heard are documented in earlier entries with the exception of the cases involving Henry Oxley and James Chapple (see cases 1899/006 and 1899/007 respectively) where the only information available is recorded in these minutes.	1899/008
George	F B			13	01	1899	Licence extension application	La	F B George applied for an extension of his alcohol licence to cover a period from 11.00pm to 3.00am. No date is given, nor is any indication of the decision of the justices.	1899/009
Richards	T G			13	01	1899	Licence extension application	La	T G Richards applied for a one-hour extension of his alcohol licence to host a postmen's supper on 13 January. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/010
Jackson	F J	Smith Wilson Ward Rogers	Thomas John John John	17	01	1899	Refusing to work	Rw	F J Jackson, master of the Wells Union workhouse, testified that on the previous day he had set the four defendants, Thomas Smith, John Wilson, John Ward and John Rogers, all inmates of the workhouse, the task of breaking 4.5cwt of stone each. This was a task that many inmates completed by around 1.00pm. However, the four defendants had failed to complete the task by the end of the day and this morning had refused to carry on and complete the work. Jackson stated that they were all perfectly healthy and well capable of carrying out the work. The defendants were all found guilty and sentenced to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/011

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Guardians of the Poor		Clarke	James	19	01	1899	Wilful damage	Wd	James Clarke had been admitted to Wells Union workhouse on 18 January. By the morning of 19 January he had cut up his own clothes, including his boots, and was demanding new clothes. The new clothes with which he was supplied cost an estimated 9/-. Clarke was found guilty of wilful damage and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/012
Guardians of the Poor		Turner	George	20	01	1899	Refusing to work	Rw	George Turner was admitted to the Wells Union workhouse on the evening of 19 January. On the following morning he was allocated to work on breaking stones. He categorically refused to carry out the work and pleaded guilty to the charge. He was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/013
Wells Gas Light Company		Toomer	John Henry	21	01	1899	Non-payment of gas account	N	The Wells Gas Light Company issued a summons against John Henry Toomer on 21 January for non-payment for gas supplied and for meter rental. The amount outstanding was recorded as £5.6s.3d plus costs of 2/6d giving a total of £5.8s.9d.	1899/014
Police		Mills	Charles	24	01	1899	Begging in the street	V	Charles Mills was charged with begging in St Cuthbert Street on 23 January when he was appealing for coppers. At the time of his arrest he had 51/2d in cash on his person. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: the surname might be Wills rather than Mills.	1899/015
Knight	James	Cox	Joseph	31	01	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Knight charged Joseph Cox of East Horrington in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 7 January. Richard Jeanes of No 13 St Cuthbert Street was summoned to give evidence for the prosecution. At the hearing on 13 February a warrant was recorded as being issued, assumed to be for Cox's arrest for non-appearance. Note: neither the summons nor the complaint document contain a specific date, but all refer to being issued in January. A date of 31 January has been assigned.	1899/016

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Furze	John	Trevors	Hannah	06	02	1899	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant Furze charged Hannah Trevors of South Street with being drunk in South Street at 11.30pm on 4 February, He noted that there had been complaints about her behaviour and she was up before the justices on a similar charge on 2 January (see case 1899/003). He also mentioned that he had had to caution her on several occasions. Trevors, whose husband was described as a signpainter, pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/017
Thatcher	Frank Carter	Stevens	Henry	08	02	1899	Maintenance order	Mo	Frank Carter Thatcher, relieving officer for Wells, complained that Henry Stevens, now resident in Southover, was not contributing to the maintenance of his father, George Stevens, formerly of Southover, who was now 68 years of age and no longer able to maintain and care for himself. George Stevens had become chargeable to the common fund of the Wells Union on 7 December 1898. Thatcher submitted that Henry Stevens had sufficient means to enable him to make a contribution towards the maintenance and support of his father in the Wells Union and asked that the contribution should be 9d per week as George Stevens was already being given 2/6d per week in relief. At the petty sessions sitting of 13 February the justices determined that Henry Stevens should make a contribution of 6d per week to support his father commencing immediately and continuing for as long as George Stevens remained chargeable to the common fund. In addition, Henry Stevens was also required to pay 8/6d for the costs of the case. He was given until 20 February to make the payment.	1899/018

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Knight	Albert	Hatcher	Albert William Alfred	08	02	1899	Theft	T	Albert Knight of St John Street, schoolmaster, complained that Albert William Alfred Hatcher of Southover, a boy aged 12 1/2, had stolen half a pound of cocoa valued at 2s 1/2d from George Duckett of Dulcote and his son, Elisha, on 30 January. They had left a coat and a basket in the lobby with the basket containing cocoa and cheese. When they returned the cocoa had gone but the cheese remained. Hatcher had been seen taking the cocoa from the basket and initially he denied taking it. The cocoa was not found on him but it was discovered in the ashpit. Hatcher eventually admitted the theft. The justices noted that Hatcher had previously been convicted of another offence of theft (see case 1898/161). They sentenced Hatcher to spend 14 days in prison at Shepton Mallet for this latest offence after which he would be transferred to a reformatory school for a period of 5 years. The school to which he would be transferred was to be determined while he was serving the custodial sentence.	1899/019
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		08	02	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1899/020

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	08	02	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	<p>Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of her son, Frederick Cole. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending on 3 February Frederick Coles had made only 1 attendance when the school was open for 56 attendances. Frederick Coles, whose birthday was shown as 5 April 1887, was recorded as having made only 32 attendances out of a possible 311 in the period during which he had been at the Central Boys' School. At the hearing on 13 February Mary Jane Cole's daughter appeared and Mary Jane Cole was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith.</p> <p>Note: at earlier hearings in 1898 Frederick Cole had been recorded as already being 12 years old and was expected to reach the age of 13 on April 5 1899. This does not match the birth date recorded in the notes on this case.</p> <p>Note: the surname of the defendant is given in the summons as Cole but the name of the pupil in the attendance report is shown as Coles.</p>	1899/020a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	08	02	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	<p>Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of her son, Thomas Cole. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending on 3 February Thomas Cole had made only 57 attendances when the school was open for 104 attendances. Thomas Cole, whose birthday was recorded as 29 November 1889, was recorded as having made only 187 attendances out of a possible 311 in the period during which he had been at the Central Boys' School. At the hearing on 13 February Mary Jane Cole's daughter appeared and Mary Jane Cole was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith.</p>	1899/020b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	08	02	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	<p>Mary Jane Cole of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of her son, Albert Cole. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at the Central Infants' School, reported that in the period ending on 3 February Albert Cole had made only 6 attendances when the school was open for 56 attendances. Albert Cole, whose birthday was recorded as 12 May 1892, was shown as being 6 years old. At the hearing on 13 February Mary Jane Cole's daughter appeared and Mary Jane Cole was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith.</p>	1899/020c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Brown	Louisa	08	02	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Louisa Brown of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of her son, William Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending on 3 February William Vincent had made no attendances when the school was open for 104 attendances. William Vincent, aged 12, was recorded as working at standard II. At the hearing on 13 February Louisa Brown was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith. A distress warrant was prepared but as Louisa Brown had no effects, police serjeant Knight did not serve it. Louisa Brown was sent to prison for 7 days (to cover this case and the cases for her other two sons, see cases 1899/020e and 1899/020f).	1899/020d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Brown	Louisa	08	02	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Louisa Brown of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of her son, Bertie Vincent. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending on 3 February Bertie Vincent had made only 61 attendances when the school was open for 100 attendances. Bertie Vincent, whose birthday was recorded as being 11 November 1888, was recorded as working at standard I. At the hearing on 13 February Louisa Brown was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith (see also case 1899/020d for the outcome).	1899/020e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Brown	Louisa	08	02	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Louisa Brown of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of her son, Charles Vincent. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at the Central Infants' School, reported that in the period ending on 3 February Charles Vincent had made only 24 attendances when the school was open for 56 attendances. Charles Vincent, whose birthday was recorded as 5 May 1892, was shown as being 6 years old. At the hearing on 13 February Louisa Brown was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith (see also case 1899/020d for the outcome).	1899/020f

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Trimmer	Alfred	08	02	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred Trimmer of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Oswald Trimmer. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending on 27 January Oswald Trimmer had made only 73 attendances when the school was open for 100 attendances. Oswald Trimmer, aged 10, was recorded as working at standard III. At the hearing on 13 February Alfred Trimmer was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith. The fine was recorded as paid.	1899/020g
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Marsh	Frederick	08	02	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Frederick Marsh of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, John Marsh. William Barnes, principal teacher at St Thomas Boys' School, reported that in the period ending on 27 January John Marsh had made only 80 attendances when the school was open for 100 attendances. John Marsh, aged 11, was recorded as working at standard III. At the hearing on 13 February Frederick Marsh's wife appeared and the case was adjourned for one month. On 13 March it was reported that John Marsh had only missed 1 1/2 days since the last attendance report. The case against Frederick Marsh was dismissed.	1899/020h
Bumstead	Stephen			13	02	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Stephen Bumstead, through his agent, Mr Chubb, applied for the alcohol licence for The Foresters' Arms to be transferred into his name from that of John Morgan. A decision on the application was adjourned.	1899/021
Middle	Sarah Kate			13	02	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Sarah Kate Middle applied for a permanent transfer into her name of the alcohol licence for The Goat Inn. Her application was granted.	1899/022
Justices		Various		13	02	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 February. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier documentation except for the licence transfer applications for Stephen Bumstead and Sarah Kate Middle (see cases 1899/021 and 1899/022 respectively) where the only documentation is the minutes of the petty sessions sitting.	1899/023

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Shore	John	21	02	1899	Drunk and disorderly Wilful damage	D Wd	John Shore was charged with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 20 February. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to one month in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. He was also charged with wilful damage to a glass window where the damage was assessed at 2/-. He again pleaded guilty and was sentenced to one month in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Note: it is not clear from the description whether the two sentences were to run in parallel or one after another.	1899/024
Richards	Andrew William			24	02	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Andrew William Richards, through his agent Mr Chubb, applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Foresters' Arms to be made into his name. Chubb was recorded as holding the keys to the property.	1899/025
Police		Jackson	Frederick	24	02	1899	Wilful damage	Wd	Frederick Jackson, barber, was charged with causing wilful damage to the glass of a public lamp in Bristol Road on 23 February. The cost of the damage was assessed as being 7/6d. The incident occurred at around 10.30pm when Jackson claimed to be sober but tired and weary. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/026
Harris	William Dambrell	Crosse Crosse	Edward Algernon Lionel	02	03	1899	Failure to issue certificate for receipt of spirits	L	William Dambrell Harris of Cheddar, inland revenue officer, complained that on 5 December 1898 Edward Algernon Crosse and Lionel Crosse, retailers of spirits at No 13 Market Place, had received a delivery of 28 gallons of spirits but had failed to properly record that delivery at the time or subsequently. They were therefore in breach of the Spirits Act and their licence held under it.	1899/027
Harris	William Dambrell	Crosse Crosse	Edward Algernon Lionel	02	03	1899	Failure to issue certificate for sale of spirits	L	William Dambrell Harris of Cheddar, inland revenue officer, complained that on 8 December 1898 Edward Algernon Crosse and Lionel Crosse, retailers of spirits at No 25 High Street, had made a delivery of 53 gallons of spirits but had failed to properly record that delivery at the time or subsequently by the issue of a certificate as required by law. They were therefore in breach of the Spirits Act and their licence held under it.	1899/028

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Harris	William Dambrell	Crosse Crosse	Edward Algernon Lionel	02	03	1899	Failure to issue certificate for sale of spirits	L	William Dambrell Harris of Cheddar, inland revenue officer, complained that on 9 December 1898 Edward Algernon Crosse and Lionel Crosse, retailers of spirits at No 25 High Street, had made a delivery of 19 gallons of spirits but had failed to properly record that delivery at the time or subsequently by the issue of a certificate as required by law. They were therefore in breach of the Spirits Act and their licence held under it.	1899/029
Knight	James	Stacey	Frank	02	03	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Frank Stacey of Street with using obscene language in High Street on 18 February. The hearing was scheduled to take place on 13 March but Stacey did not appear and a warrant for his arrest was issued. At the belated hearing on 15 March Stacey pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined £1 including costs, the fine being higher than normal because he had ignored the summons. He was given until Saturday (18 March) to pay the fine.	1899/030
Hutchings	Charles	Govier	John Henry	02	03	1899	Refusal to quit licensed premises	L	Charles Hutchings of High Street, innkeeper, complained that on 18 February John Henry Govier of Overleigh in the parish of Street, bootmaker, had become quarrelsome and disorderly on his premises but had refused to leave when Hutchings requested him to go, thereby placing himself in breach of the Licensing Act. The hearing of the case was scheduled for 13 March but Govier did not appear and a warrant for his arrest was issued. When Govier eventually appeared before the justices on 20 April he pleaded not guilty to the charge of refusing to quit licensed premises. However Charles Hutchings, landlord of The Hearts of Oak, testified that Govier had come into his house after a game of football and become involved in high words with other patrons and, as a result, Hutchings had asked him to leave. Hutchings had had to physically evict Govier several times, on one occasion with the assistance of George Haskins, and at some point had been struck in the face by Govier. Eventually, the police were called and this led to a charge of Govier being drunk and disorderly (see case 1899/032). Govier was found guilty and ordered to pay a fine of 10/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison.	1899/031

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Govier	John Henry	02	03	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged John Henry Govier of Overleigh in the parish of Street, bootmaker, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 18 February. The hearing of the case was scheduled for 13 March but Govier failed to attend the hearing and a warrant for his arrest was issued. When Govier eventually came before the justices on 20 April he pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs or to serve 7 days in prison. In the latter case the sentence would run consecutively to that handed down in the associated case of refusing to quit licensed premises (see case 1899/031). Note: the summons names the defendant as James Govier, but the name was later amended.	1899/032
Knight	James	Richards	Clifford	02	03	1899	Obstructing the highway	O	Police serjeant James Knight charged Clifford Richards of The New Inn in the parish of Wookey with obstructing the highway in Tucker Street on 22 February by leaving a horse and waggon there unattended for at least 25 minutes. PC Hyett watched the horse and waggon for a while before going into The Chew Valley inn and finding Richards at the bar. Richards pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 1/- plus costs of 6/-. Both sums were recorded as paid. Note: The minutes heard on 13 March (see case 1899/045) show The Chew Valley as the name of the inn, but this perhaps should be the Cheddar Valley, given the horse and waggon was obstructing Tucker St.	1899/033
Knight	James	Woodhams	Dowman	02	03	1899	Riding bicycle without lights	Rd	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Dowman Woodhams of High Street, stationer, with riding a bicycle in Priory Road without lights at 6.50pm on 18 February, i.e. between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise, hours during which a light was legally required. Henry Wood of Market Street was summoned as a witness for the prosecution. Woodhams pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1899/034

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Idiens	Joseph	02	03	1899	Riding bicycle without lights	Rd	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Joseph Idiens of Glastonbury, hay dealer, with riding a bicycle in Priory Road without lights at 10.30pm on 26 February , i.e. between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise, hours during which a light was legally required. Idiens was stopped by police serjeant Furze as he was cycling towards Glastonbury. Idiens was fined 5/- including costs.	1899/035
Simmons	Shadrach			02	03	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Shadrach Simmons applied for the alcohol licence for The Fountain Inn to be transferred (temporarily?) into his name. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: the surname of the applicant is unclear. The notes do not mention a temporary transfer but the fee charged is consistent with a temporary rather than permanent transfer.	1899/036
Police		Moss	Thomas	02	03	1899	Drunkenness	D	Thomas Moss was charged with being drunk in Tucker Street on 1 March. He pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1899/037
Gould	William	Lovell	Sarah	02	03	1899	Assault	A	William Gould of Southover complained that on 1 March he had been assaulted by Sarah Lovell of Broad Street, wife of Harry Lovell. John Green of Union Street, milk dealer, and William Henry Webb of The Queen's Head Inn in High Street, innkeeper, were called as witnesses on behalf of the plaintiff. Gould claimed that just after he walked into The Queen's Head, Sarah Lovell came from behind a door, dragged him into the kitchen and smashed him in the face. Sarah Lovell pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs to be paid by 4.00pm that afternoon.	1899/038

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Oxley	Richard	03	03	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight charged Richard Oxley of Street with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 18 February. Charles Hutchings, innkeeper, was called as a witness for the prosecution (see also case 1899/041). The officer was called to The Hearts of Oak inn where he found Richard Oxley outside the inn drunkenly trying to initiate a fight and seemingly willing to take on all comers. However, he was so drunk that he fell into the gutter and had to be helped away, only to return soon after. He gave a false name to police serjeant Knight, calling himself Richard Richmond. Oxley pleaded not guilty to the charge but was found guilty and fined 15/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1899/039
Bisgood	John	Hatcher	Alfred	03	03	1899	Maintenance order	Mo	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, requested that the justices issue a maintenance order against Alfred Hatcher with respect to his son, Albert William Alfred Hatcher, aged 12, who had been sent to the Wiltshire reformatory school in Warminster until February 1904 as a consequence of being found guilty of theft in February 1899 (see case 1899/019). Bisgood submitted that Alfred Hatcher was of sufficient means to make a contribution to the support and maintenance of his son. Hatcher was said to be earning 15/- per week and his wife 6/9d, while their rent was 3/1d per week and there were 6 children at home not earning. At the hearing on 13 March Alfred Hatcher appeared in person and the justices ruled that he should make a contribution of 6d per week until his son left the reformatory school with the first payment due on the following Saturday and subsequent payments to be made every two weeks. Note: confusingly, the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 March indicate that a decision on this case had been postponed.	1899/040

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hutchings	Charles	Oxley	Richard	07	03	1899	Refusal to quit licensed premises	L	Charles Hutchings of The Hearts of Oak in High Street, innkeeper, complained that on 18 February Richard Oxley of Street, bootmaker, had become quarrelsome while on his premises, but had refused Hutchings' request to leave thereby placing himself in breach of the Licensing Act. Oxley had apparently come into the pub which was already full and within moments was quarrelling and beginning to fight. Hutchings ordered everyone out but Oxley and some others refused. The police were called and the offenders removed. Oxley pleaded not guilty but was found guilty of the offence and fined 5/- including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1899/041
Police		Baker Collins	George Fred	07	03	1899	Drunkenness	D	PC Mason encountered Fred Collins staggering drunkenly down High Street on 6 March. A few yards ahead he saw George Baker who appeared to be in a similar condition. The two men linked up supporting each other as they moved on, although Collins then fell and had to be helped up by Baker and PC Mason who got both of them to the police station with some difficulty. They were kept in the cells overnight and the following day the case against Collins was dismissed while Baker, who was said to belong to The Wookey Hole Inn, was fined 2/6d including costs. The fine was recorded as paid.	1899/042
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		07	03	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the succeeding entries.	1899/043

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	07	03	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that Mary Jane Cole had failed to comply with the justices' order of 6 December 1898 (see case 1898/175) that her son, Frederick Cole, should attend the public elementary school in St John Street on every occasion that it was open. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period to 28 February Frederick Cole had only made 2 attendances when the school was open for 72 attendances. It was noted that he had not attended school since 26 February and may have gone away. Frederick Cole was recorded as being 12 years of age and working at standard III, although his date of birth was recorded as 5 April 1887. At the hearing on 13 March Mary Jane Cole attended and was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/043a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Stevens	Alfred John	07	03	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred John Stevens of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Annie Stevens. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 24 February Annie Stevens had made only 12 attendances when the school was open for 36 attendances. Annie Stevens, aged 12, was recorded as working at standard III. At the hearing on 13 March Alfred John Stevens attended in person and reported that his daughter had been sent home ill but she had attended on two occasions in the last week. He was fined 2/6d to be paid forthwith; this sum was recorded as paid.	1899/043b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Stevens	Alfred John	07	03	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred John Stevens of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Albert Stevens. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 24 February Albert Stevens had made only 21 attendances when the school was open for 36 attendances. Albert Stevens was recorded as working at standard I. At the hearing on 13 March Alfred John Stevens attended in person and reported that his son had attended school for the last fortnight. The case against him was dismissed.	1899/043c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Say	Thomas	07	03	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Say of Priest Row was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Ellen Say. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period ending 24 February Ellen Say had made only 17 attendances when the school was open for 36 attendances. Ellen Say, aged 11, was recorded as working at standard VI. At the hearing on 13 March Thomas Say was ill and was represented by his wife. She reported that the child had not properly been in school for the last week but undertook to ensure that her daughter attended school in the future. A fine of 1/- was imposed and this was recorded as paid.	1899/043d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Hatcher	Alfred	07	03	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Alfred Hatcher of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Egbert Hatcher. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period ending 3 March Egbert Hatcher had made only 18 attendances when the school was open for 26 attendances. Egbert Hatcher was recorded as working at standard I. At the hearing on 13 March it was noted that Egbert Hatcher's attendance over the last two weeks had been better and the case was adjourned for one month. Alfred Hatcher attended the adjourned hearing on 10 April and since Egbert Hatcher's attendance had been satisfactory, the case against him was dismissed.	1899/043e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	07	03	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Perry of South Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Rose Perry. Eleanor Innell, principal teacher at the Central Infants' School, reported that in the period ending on 28 February Rose Perry had made only 36 attendances when the school was open for 68 attendances. Rose Perry was shown as being 6 years old. At the hearing on 13 March James Perry's wife attended and explained that her daughter had bad eyes. The case was adjourned for one month. At the hearing on 10 April it was reported that over the last few weeks Rose Perry's attendance had been satisfactory and the case was dismissed.	1899/043f

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Kingwell	John Tozer			10	03	1899	Licence transfer application	La	John Tozer Kingwell applied for the alcohol licence for The Mitre Hotel to be temporarily transferred into his name. The application was submitted by H F Thorn. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/044
Justices		Various		13	03	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 13 March. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier documents.	1899/045
Police		Norman	Mary Ann	14	03	1899	Drunkenness	D	Mary Ann Norman was charged with being drunk in St Thomas Street on 13 March. She was described as being helplessly staggering drunk. She pleaded guilty to the charge and pledged that she would go back to the workhouse. She was discharged on the basis of that promise. Note: the location to which Mary Ann Norman promised to go back is not clear, but the workhouse seems the most likely interpretation.	1899/046
Johnson	Lucy	Lee	Edward	21	03	1899	False pretences (fraud)	Fr	Lucy Johnson of Broad Street complained that she had several articles stolen from her on 7 March and at other earlier dates by Edward Lee using false pretences. The items involved were a gold watch, a silver watch chain, a gold diamond ring, a pair of boots and a silk pocket handkerchief with a total value of £6.19s.0d. Lee claimed that he had his possessions in a heavy box at the railway station and it contained £270 which he had earned working as a bricklayer in Bristol. He also claimed to have a pension of 1/6d per day which was going to increase to 2/-. Lee also stated that he had bought a ticket to Australia at a cost of £19 and would be leaving on 10 March. He offered to pay the fare out to Australia for Lucy Johnson but she refused to go out on a single ticket. Lee then said that he would marry her and they agreed to marry on 9 March. Lee had then disappeared with no known address. On 31 July, having ascertained the whereabouts of Lee, John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, issued an arrest warrant for Edward Lee on a charge of false pretences. Lee was already serving a 12-month sentence in Worcester prison on another charge of false pretences. The hearing in Wells was scheduled for 22 August. At that hearing Lee was committed for trial at the next quarter sessions for unlawfully obtaining a number of items from Lucy Johnson of Broad Street by false pretences with the intent to defraud.	1899/047

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Maul	Edward	27	03	1899	Begging in the street	V	Edward Maul was charged with begging in High Street on 27 March. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 7 days in prison in Shepton Mallet. Note: the sentence originally showed the prison term to be with hard labour but that element was crossed out in the documentation.	1899/048
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	30	03	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that Mary Jane Cole had failed to comply with the justices' order of 6 December 1898 (see case 1898/175) that her son, Frederick Cole, should attend the public elementary school in St John Street on every occasion that it was open. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that Frederick Cole had made no attendances in the period to 27 March during which the school was open for 41 attendances. At the hearing on 10 April Mary Jane Cole attended in person and Serel testified that he understood the boy had been away for around a fortnight but had recently been seen in the street and was said to be working at Mr Wickham's. The case was adjourned so that the boy could be brought before the justices. On 8 May Mary Jane Cole and Frederick Cole appeared before the justices and Mary Jane Cole was fined 5/- to be paid by Saturday (13 May).	1899/049
Police		Gould	William	01	04	1899	Sleeping in outhouse	V	PC Mason found William Gould to be sleeping in a hayloft in Market Street on 31 March. Gould pleaded guilty to the charge of vagrancy and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/050
Knight	James	Chappell Hawkins Trudjian Lovell Haskins Free Chappell	Ernest Edward Herbert James Albert William Hubert	04	04	1899	Obstructing the footway	O	Police serjeant Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Ernest Chappell, Edward Hawkins, Herbert Trudjian, James Lovell, Albert Haskins, William Free and Hubert Chappell, all of Wells, with obstructing the footway in High Street on 7 March. The boys were all standing on the pavement jostling and pushing each other and potentially causing damage to shop fronts while also making it impossible for passers-by to use the footway, forcing them to step into the road. PC Mason tried to intervene but the boys ran away and then came back together again after he had gone. At the hearing on 10 April Ernest Chappell and James Lovell pleaded not guilty but the other boys pleaded guilty. All of them were found guilty and ordered to pay fines of 1/- each including costs; the fines were recorded as paid.	1899/051

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Hatcher	Alfred	04	04	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Alfred Hatcher of Southover, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 12 March. At the hearing on 10 April Hatcher pleaded not guilty. PC Hyett had encountered Hatcher after he had been ejected from The Railway Tavern. Hatcher was very drunk, loud and very abusive. Hyett tried to persuade him to go home but he refused. Hatcher was found guilty and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/052
Knight	James	Hatcher	Alfred	04	04	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Alfred Hatcher of Southover, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in St John Street on 13 March. At the hearing on 10 April Hatcher pleaded not guilty. PC Hyett had met Hatcher at around 6.00pm where he was staggering drunk and having words with his wife. Hyett tried to persuade him to go home but he refused. Hyett took him home through the throng that had collected as a result of Hatcher's actions and shouting. Hatcher was found guilty and sentenced to serve 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet, this sentence to run on consecutively from the sentence for being drunk and disorderly on the previous evening (see case 1899/052).	1899/053
Knight	James	Hatcher Hatcher	Alfred Elizabeth	04	04	1899	Using obscene language	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Alfred Hatcher of Southover, labourer, and his wife, Elizabeth Hatcher, also described as a labourer, with using obscene language in Southover on 18 March. At around 11.45pm police serjeant Furze was asked to go to Southover because of a disturbance in the street. He found Alfred Hatcher and his wife, Elizabeth Hatcher, having an argument in the street and using a good deal of bad language. Furze provided a transcript of some of the language said to have been used. Both defendants were found guilty of the offence and it was noted that arguments between them were a frequent occurrence. Alfred Hatcher was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet, this sentence to run consecutively to the two sentences already handed out to him (see cases 1899/052 and 1899/053). Elizabeth Hatcher was fined 7/6d including costs and she was given one week within which to pay.	1899/054

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Hatcher	Frank	04	04	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Frank Hatcher of Southover, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in St John Street on 13 March. Henry Jennings of Bath Road and Albert Parsons of Broad Street were called as witnesses to provide evidence for the prosecution. At the hearing on 10 April Frank Hatcher pleaded guilty. He was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/055
Knight	James	Woolford Vile Ashman Ware	Albert William Walter Thomas	04	04	1899	Obstructing the highway	O	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Albert Woolford, William Vile, Walter Ashman and Thomas Ware, all of Southover, with obstructing the highway in Southover on 16 March by playing hockey in the street. At the hearing on 10 April all the defendants pleaded guilty. With the exception of Thomas Ware, they were each fined 1/- including costs.	1899/056
Barnard	William Charles	Price	John	04	04	1899	Assault	Pr	William Charles Barnard of High Street, butcher, complained that on 26 March John Price of South Street, had assaulted his son, Sidney Charles Barnard. At the hearing on 10 April Price pleaded not guilty. Sidney Charles Barnard testified that he had been walking along Mill Lane and he had passed a horse in harness belonging to Mr Charles standing by the kerb. He claimed that he had touched the horse to give himself room to get past and Price had then hit him in the back with his knee and then struck him under the ear. Price claimed that the boy had struck the horse firmly on the rump and caused it to jump. In his view there was plenty of room for the boy to get past without touching the horse. Oliver Duckett, a witness to the events, had been with Price at the time and supported Price's view that the boy had smacked the horse unnecessarily. He reported that Price and young Barnard had exchanged words and that, while Price had barely touched the boy, Barnard had responded by kicking him in the leg. Price was fined 1/- without costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/057

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knights	James	Woolf	Ellen	04	04	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Ellen Woolf of St Thomas Place with using obscene language in St Thomas Place on 1 April. A transcript of the words said to have been used by Ellen Woolf was included in the documentation. At the hearing on 10 April Ellen Woolf pleaded guilty but she claimed that she was acting under great provocation. PC Hyatt had seen and heard her at around 11.30pm in St Thomas Place where she had been quarrelling with her sister. Hyatt advised her to go into her house and calm down which, after a little persuasion, she did. She was fined 5/- including costs and given until Saturday (15 April) to pay.	1899/058
Police		Harris	Albert	04	04	1899	Drunkenness	D	Albert Harris aged 19, labourer, was charged with being drunk in High Street on 3 April. He pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 10/- including costs. Harris was given 2 days within which to pay the fine.	1899/059
Knights	James	Cole	Robert	05	04	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Robert Cole of Southover, labourer, with using obscene language in Southover on 2 April. A transcript of the words said to have been used by Cole was included in the documentation. At the hearing on 10 April Robert Cole pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs. He was given until Saturday (15 April) to pay.	1899/060
Police		Perry	Charles	06	04	1899	Drunkenness	D	Charles Perry of Glastonbury, painter, was charged with being drunk in the Market Place on 5 April. At the time of his arrest Perry had no money on his person. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs. Perry was given until Saturday (8 April) to pay the fine.	1899/061
Trim	Annie	Allen	Fanny	06	04	1899	Assault	A	Annie Trim of St Thomas Place complained that on 5 April she had been assaulted by Fanny Allen of St Thomas Place, wife of Harry Allen. There appears to be no further information on this case.	1899/062

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Barnard	William Charles	Loxton	William	07	04	1899	Eviction notice	Ev	William Charles Barnard of High Street, butcher, was renting a cottage at No 27 South Street to William Loxton on a week by week basis at 4/6d per week free of rates and taxes. He had served Loxton with a notice to quit on 1 April and, although Loxton acknowledged that he had received the notice, he had not released the property to Barnard. On 7 April Barnard therefore issued a formal notice that on 17 April he would be petitioning the justices for a possession order in respect of the property. On 17 April the possession order was granted and was scheduled to come into effect in 22 days.	1899/063
Foot	Albert Henry			10	04	1899	Vaccination exemption	Ve	Albert Henry Foot applied for a vaccination exemption certificate for his daughter, Eleanor Foot, aged 2. The application was refused as it was too late.	1899/064
Kingwill	John Tozer			10	04	1899	Licence transfer application	La	John Tozer Kingwill applied for the alcohol licence for The Mitre Hotel to be transferred into his name. The application was granted. It was noted that the owners of the hotel were Miller & Co of Stokes Croft Brewery of Bristol.	1899/065
Moor	Sarah Ann			10	04	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Sarah Ann Moor applied for the alcohol licence for The Golden Heart to be transferred into her name. The fee of 30/- was paid. The owners were noted as Baxter & Co.	1899/066
Simmons	Shadrach			10	04	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Shadrach Simmons applied for the alcohol licence for The Fountain Inn to be transferred into his name. The application was granted.	1899/067
Richards	Andrew William			10	04	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Andrew William Richards applied for the alcohol licence for The Foresters' Arms to be transferred into his name. The application was granted.	1899/068
Richards	Thomas G			10	04	1899	Licence extension application	La	Thomas G Richards applied to operate an off-licence in the Town Hall from 8.00pm to 4.30am next Wednesday (19 April) for the ball.	1899/069
Police		Brooks	William	10	04	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	William Brooks was charged with being drunk and disorderly on 20 March. Brooks pleaded guilty and was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. Note: this case is only documented in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 April (see case 1899/073).	1899/070

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Francis jnr	Joseph	10	04	1899	Drunkenness	D	Joseph Francis the younger was charged with being drunk in a public place. No information is given on the date or location of the offence. Francis pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. Note: this case is only documented in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 April (see case 1899/073)	1899/071
Police		Price Witcombe	William Frederick	10	04	1899	Affray	Af	William Price and Frederick Witcombe were charged with making an affray but no information is given as to the date or location. Both men pleaded guilty to the charge and were bound over in the sum of £5 each to keep the peace for the next 6 months. They were also required to pay the costs of the case of 12/- with payment to be made by Saturday (15 April). Note: this case is only documented in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 April (see case 1899/073).	1899/072
Justices		Various		10	04	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 April. The vaccination exemption application from Albert Henry Foot (see case 1899/064) and the series of licence transfer and licence extension applications (see cases 1899/065 to 1899/069 inclusive) are documented only in these minutes. This also applies to the cases involving William Brooks (case 1899/070), Joseph Francis the younger (case 1899/071) and William Price and Frederick Witcombe (see case 1899/072) where no documentation exists other than these minutes.	1899/073
Knight	James	Salmon	Henry Charles	25	04	1899	Lunacy	Lu	Police serjeant James Knight reported that he had had a number of recent encounters with Henry Charles Salmon. On the basis of these encounters he formed the opinion that Salmon was mentally unbalanced and required the intervention of a medical practitioner. Knight reported that one day Salmon had come to his home and asked if Knight had heard anything about the letters, but this was a complete mystery to Knight. Soon afterwards Salmon had approached Knight saying that he had to go to London but could Knight tell him who he was supposed to meet. Arthur Taylor of No 4 Cathedral Green and Bessie Grable provided instances of similarly strange behaviour from Salmon. It was agreed that Salmon appeared to be disturbed in his mind and that a medical practitioner needed to be called in to examine him.	1899/074

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Savage	T	28	04	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Mason charged T Savage with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street in 27 April. Mason had found Savage at around 8.40pm when he was drunk and excited with a crowd around him. Aaron Wills reported that Savage had taken off his coat to fight but he managed to restrain him. Mason was able to take Savage to the police station and arrest him. Savage was found guilty and fined 5/- plus costs of 2/6d to be paid by the following night or to spend 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/075
Knight	James	Holloway	Arthur	04	05	1899	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Arthur Holloway of The Star Hotel, boots, with being drunk in High Street on 23 April. Holloway pleaded guilty to the charge and at the hearing on 8 May was fined 7/6d including costs. Note: the complaint document gives the forename of the defendant as Frederick but this is modified on the summons to Arthur.	1899/076
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		04	05	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that a number of parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school regularly as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the associated entries below.	1899/077
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Foot	Albert Henry	04	05	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Albert Henry Foot was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Lily Foot. Louise C Stones, principal teacher at the Roman Catholic School, reported that in the period to 28 April Lily Foot had made 45 attendances when the school had been open for 71 attendances. Lily Foot, aged 10, was recorded as working at standard III. At the hearing on 8 May the wife of Albert Henry Foot attended and reported that Lily had a full attendance at school in the previous week. The case was adjourned for one month. When the next hearing took place on 12 June Serel reported that Lily Foot had made 45 attendances of the last 47 possible attendances. Albert Foot was fined 1/-.	1899/077a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bowell	Sydenham	04	05	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Sydenham Bowell was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Frank Bowell. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period to 28 April Frank Bowell had made 82 attendances when the school was open for 106 attendances. Frank Bowell, aged 12, was recorded as working at standard I. At the hearing on 8 May the wife of Sydenham Bowell attended and reported that Frank was frequently late in getting to school and therefore his attendance was not counted. The case was adjourned for one month. When the next hearing took place on 12 June Serel reported that recently Frank Bowell's attendance had been better and he had recently made 37 attendances out of a possible 47 attendances. The case was adjourned for a further month to see if Frank Bowell made more regular attendances.	1899/077b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Keniston	Henry	04	05	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Henry Keniston was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Frederick Keniston. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School, reported that in the period to 28 April Frederick Keniston had made 36 attendances when the school had been open for 50 attendances. Frederick Keniston, aged 12, was recorded as working at standard II. At the hearing on 8 May Henry Keniston's daughter attended. She worked at Wookey Hole Mill and reported that her mother had been unable to attend because she was ill. The case was adjourned for one month. When the next hearing took place on 12 June Keniston's daughter appeared again. Serel reported that Frederick Keniston had made 44 attendances out of a possible 47 attendances over the last fortnight. The case was recorded as complete.	1899/077c

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Jenkins	William Henry	Ashford	James	04	05	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, reported that James Ashford of St Thomas Street had failed to pay the rate set on 3 October 1898. Ashford was recorded as owing 6/7d for the rate plus a further 2/6d for costs, giving a total of 9/1d. Ashford's wife attended the hearing on 8 May and pleaded that Ashford was unable to pay because he was unwell and had had to take time off work. He had now gone back to work on the railway but the children were now ill and required medication. Ashford was granted a further month until 8 June to pay the outstanding debt which would then total 11/1d because additional costs of 2/- would be incurred. In the event of Ashford failing to pay, a distress warrant would be issued.	1899/078
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	04	05	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, reported that Henry Oxley of Priest Row had failed to pay the rate set on 3 October 1898. Oxley was recorded as owing 7/- for the rate plus a further 2/6d for costs, giving a total of 9/6d. Oxley failed to appear at the hearing on 8 May and in his absence was ordered to clear the outstanding debt by 15 May. By this point the debt would be 11/6d because additional costs of 2/- would be incurred. In the event of Oxley failing to make the necessary payment, a distress warrant would be issued in an attempt to recover the debt.	1899/079
Jenkins	William Henry	Sandy	Sophia	04	05	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, reported that Sophia Sandy, now living in Dawlish c/o Henry Lovell, had failed to pay the rate set on 3 October 1898. Sophia Sandy, widow, was recorded as owing 9/- for the rate plus a further 2/6d for costs, giving a total of 11/6d. Jenkins testified that he had tried to obtain the money before she left Wells but without success. The justices ordered that she should pay the outstanding debt of 11/6d plus a further 2/- for additional costs within 21 days.	1899/080
Welchman	Stanley Lyne			06	05	1899	Licence extension application	La	Stanley Lyne Welchman, landlord of The Crown Inn, applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence for that evening for the May market. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/081

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Police		Milton	Elizabeth	06	05	1899	Begging in the street	V	Elizabeth Milton was charged with begging in High Street on 5 May. Milton also appeared to be drunk and lay down in the street. She also used filthy language when being arrested, although she did plead guilty to the charge of begging. She was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/082
Justices		Various		08	05	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 8 May. All cases heard are recorded in earlier entries with relevant data from the minutes incorporated in these entries.	1899/083
Police		Butt	William	15	05	1899	Drunkenness	D	William Butt was charged with being drunk in High Street on 13 May. Butt pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. He was granted 7 days within which to pay.	1899/084
Police		Sweet	Mary	16	05	1899	Drunkenness	D	Mary Sweet was arrested and charged with being drunk in Mill Lane on 15 May. PC Hyett encountered Mary Sweet lying against a door in Mill Lane at around 11.15pm, having previously seen her staggering along Broad Street. As she was not in a state to look after herself, he took her to the police station where she staggered around and used a good deal of indecent language. The justices decided to dismiss the case against Mary Sweet, provided that she carried out her promise to go to the workhouse immediately.	1899/085
Police		James	Henry	21	05	1899	Drunken and disorderly	D	Henry James was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Sadler Street on 19 May. On the Saturday evening at around 6.45pm PC Hyett reported that James had been very disorderly, armed with a big stick, singing and shouting and encouraged by a crowd. James apparently belonged to Swindon where his wife and 2 children resided and he worked at the GWR workshops. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was remanded until the following morning when he was discharged.	1899/086

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Collins	Sarah	Clements	Emily	30	05	1899	Eviction notice	Ev	On 21 March 1899 Edwin Adolphus Collins, acting as the agent of Sarah Collins, wife of Frederick Collins, issued to Emily Clements a notice to quit the property at No 7 South Street which she was renting at 3/- per week on a week by week agreement with Sarah Collins, the property's owner, for whom R Isgar held power of attorney. Possession was requested by 3 April 1899. Emily Clements failed to comply with the notice to quit and on 30 May 1899 Edwin Adolphus Collins advised her that on 7 June he would be formally asking the justices to issue a possession order in favour of Sarah Collins; he also read the formal notice to Emily Clements' daughter, but the property was still not released. On 7 June the justices authorised the issue of a possession order to become effective in 22 days.	1899/087
Harwood	Selina Emily	Hatcher	Alfred	30	05	1899	Eviction notice	Ev	Selina Emily Harwood of Shepton Mallet issued to Alfred Hatcher a notice to quit the property at No 27 Southover which he was renting from her on a week by week basis at 4/- per week. This notice was undated but she requested that she be released the property on 29 May 1899. When Hatcher had not released the property by that date, Selina Emily Harwood's husband, Charles Henry Harwood, who was acting as her agent, issued a notice on 30 May that he would be formally requesting the justices on 7 June 1899 to grant a possession order in favour of Selina Emily Harwood. Charles Harwood had served both the initial notice to quit and the formal warning of seeking a possession order on Alfred Hatcher's wife. In both instances she supposedly said that she understood the import of the documents. However, the family still had not released the property. On 7 June the justices authorised the issue of a possession order to become effective in 22 days.	1899/088

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Collins	Edwin Adolphus	Ford	George	05	06	1899	Removal of goods	Rg	Edwin Adolphus Collins was renting a tenement and premises at St Thomas Place, No 4 St Thomas Street to George Ford at a rent of 3/- per week. By 15 May George Ford had fallen into rent arrears of 15/- and Collins complained that Ford had clandestinely and illegally removed his possessions with a value of around £3 from the premises so that Collins could not distrain against these assets to recover the outstanding debt. The case was originally to be heard on 7 June but was adjourned until 12 June when the justices ordered that Ford should pay to Collins on 14 June the outstanding debt of 15/- plus a further 5/6d for costs. If Ford was in default, a distress order would be issued against his assets. Ford paid 7/- on 12 June leaving a balance of 13/6d to be paid within 2 days.	1899/089
Police		Rich	John	05	06	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	John Rich was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Queen Street on 3 June. The justices were made aware of Rich's 8 previous convictions which ran from July 1892 to April 1898, primarily for drunkenness (see 1892/062, 1897/119, 1898/045 and 1898/096), but also including using obscene language (see 1895/126) and exposing his person to females (see 1892/075); a detailed list is included in the documentation. Several of the convictions had led to spells of imprisonment. He pleaded guilty to this charge and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/090
Radnedge	Herbert			05	06	1899	Vaccination exemption	Ve	Herbert Radnedge of Ash Lane applied for a vaccination exemption certificate for his daughter, Daisy Maud Radnedge, who was born on 8 February 1899. He stated that he believed that the vaccination would be prejudicial to the child's health. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/091
Justices		Various		07	06	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 7 June 1899. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes are included in those entries.	1899/092

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Knight	James	Baker	Florence	08	06	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Florence Baker of South Street with using obscene language in the Market Place on 5 May. The case was initially scheduled to be heard on 12 June but various delays led it to be rescheduled for 9 October and then 12 October. It appears that the original summons may not have been served. At the hearing on 12 October Florence Baker pleaded guilty and was fined 8/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/093
Knight	James	Hayes	Thomas	08	06	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Thomas Hayes of Mill Lane, fishmonger's assistant, with using obscene language in Mill Lane on 8 May. A transcript of the words allegedly used by Hayes was included in the documentation. At the hearing on 12 June Hayes appeared in person and pleaded guilty to the charge which arose from having been seen in High Street by PC Mason where Hayes was apparently striking his wife. Mason testified that Hayes had then continued into Mill Lane where he continued to use obscene language towards his wife and to Mason. Hayes was fined 10/- including costs. He paid 5/- and was given until Saturday (17 June) to pay the balance.	1899/094
Knight	James	Granville	Walter	08	06	1899	Drunkenness	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Walter Granville of Southover, mason, with being drunk in Southover on 9 May. The justices were given a list of three previous convictions that Granville had accumulated since 1893, the first for drunkenness, the second for using obscene language and the third for refusing to quit licensed premises when asked to do by the landlord. In this instance Granville pleaded guilty. He had been seen by police serjeant Furze in St John Street weaving from one side of the road to the other and had great difficulty in getting home. Granville was fined 7/6d including costs; he paid 5/- immediately and was given until Saturday (17 June) to pay the balance.	1899/095

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Lisk	Ernest	08	06	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Ernest Lisk of Glastonbury with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 22 May. PC Hyett had encountered Lisk at around 10.15pm when he was clearly drunk and behaving in a disorderly manner. He had evidently been fighting and had been rescued by his friend. Lisk was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid. The costs alone were recorded as being 7/- and it was noted that the balance would be included in the County Police Bill.	1899/096
Knight	James	Tidball	Walter	08	06	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Walter Tidball of Southover, labourer, with using obscene language in High Street on 22 May. A transcript of the words allegedly used by Tidball was included in the documentation. The justices were also made aware of two previous convictions, one in 1896 for obstructing the footway (see 1896/150) and the other in 1898 for fighting in the street (see 1898/001). At the hearing on 12 June Tidball pleaded guilty to the current offence which also seemed to involve some violence, possibly against PC Hyett. He was fined 10/- plus costs of 5/6d or to serve 14 days in prison with hard labour. He was ordered to make the payment by 4.00pm that afternoon.	1899/097
Knight	James	Chivers	Albert	08	06	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Albert Chivers of Bere Lane, Glastonbury, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in High Street on 22 May. At the hearing on 12 June Chivers was discharged as the wrong person had been summoned to answer the charge.	1899/098
Justices		Various		12	06	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 June 1899. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier entries and relevant details from the minutes are included in those entries.	1899/099
Ashman	Edward James			24	06	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Edward James Ashman applied for a temporary transfer into his name of the alcohol licence for The Rose and Crown. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/100

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Knight	James	Pearce	Albert	24	06	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Albert Pearce of Hartlake, Glastonbury, labourer, with using obscene language in High Street on 10 June. At around 10.15pm PC Hyett had seen Pearce staggering down the street with other people having to take evasive action to get out of the way. Pearce had become very abusive and needed his mother's assistance to get down the street. At the hearing on 10 July Pearce pleaded not guilty to the charge but was fined 5/- including costs with the fine to be paid at once; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/101
Knight	James	Main	James	24	06	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged James Main of Penn Hill in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert with using obscene language in the Market Place on 17 June. At around 6.00pm PC Hyett heard bad language coming from the urinal in the Market Place. He found Main there and asked for his name and address which Main refused to give. At the hearing on 10 July Main pleaded not guilty but was fined 5/- including costs and ordered to pay at once; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/102
Knight	James	Jeanes	John	24	06	1899	Obstructing the highway	O	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged John Jeanes of West Horrington, labourer, with wilfully causing an obstruction in St Thomas Street on 20 June by leaving a horse and waggon there. At the hearing on 10 July Jeanes pleaded guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs to be paid immediately; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/103
Police		Cole Cole Marshman Read	Frederick Ernest Thomas Edward Robert Thomas	27	06	1899	Theft	T	Four young boys, Frederick Cole aged 12, Ernest Thomas Cole aged 9, Edward Marshman aged 11, and Robert Thomas Read aged 10, were charged with the theft of around 25lbs of old iron belonging to Hubert Chapman on or around 24 June. The boys were found guilty but released on the promise of future good behaviour and required to be bound over for 3 months in the sum of 10/- each.	1899/104

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Freeman	Edwin Samuel Henry	Fowler	George	29	06	1899	Refusal to quit licensed premises	L	Edwin Samuel Henry Freeman, landlord of The King's Arms in St John Street, complained that on 17 June George Fowler of Southover had become disorderly and quarrelsome on his premises. Freeman's brother, Sidney Charles Freeman, acting as the agent for his brother, requested that Fowler leave the premises and refused to serve him. Initially Fowler agreed to go but within 5 minutes he had returned, taken off his coat and waistcoat, and was offering to fight the best man in the house. Edward Stevens of Southover was called to give evidence for the plaintiff as he had been challenged to fight by Fowler. Police serjeant Furze had been called and he was able to get Fowler to leave the premises with the assistance of Fowler's mother and sister who took him away. Furze stated that he found Fowler in a fighting attitude and there was some blood on his clothes which suggested that he had been fighting already. The case against Fowler, who pleaded not guilty, was dismissed because of a lack of witnesses to his conduct, but Freeman was not required to pay the costs of the case.	1899/105
Police		Stevens	George	30	06	1899	Attempted suicide	Sc	George Stevens was charged with attempting to commit suicide on 2 June. Witnesses were named as - John Henry Hawkins of Priest Row, painter, - Hubert William Allen of Chamberlain Street, medical practitioner, and - Louis Mason of St Thomas Street, police constable. Stevens was committed for trial at the next quarterly assizes. Stevens and all of the witnesses were required to put forward a surety of £2 each, with an additional surety of £2 for Stevens provided by Dr Allen.	1899/106

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hill	Elizabeth	Hill	Jacob	01	07	1899	Threats of assault	A	Elizabeth Hill of Bristol Road, wife of Jacob Hill, complained that on 1 July and on a number of occasions before that, Jacob Hill, labourer, had issued threats of violence against her. She said that she feared that he would inflict severe bodily injury on her and asked that he be required to put forward sureties to guarantee his future behaviour particularly towards her. At the hearing on 3 July Elizabeth Hill testified and, in addition, testimony was also obtained from Sidney Hill, son of Jacob and Elizabeth Hill, and Rose Lambert, a niece of Elizabeth Hill who was staying with the family at the time. Sidney Hill had confronted his father and told him that they would summon the police if he continued to threaten his wife with physical violence. The justices ruled that Jacob Hill should put forward a bond of £5 of his own money together with a further surety of £5, provided in this case by Obed Hill of Commercial Road, Shepton Mallet, drayman. Jacob Hill was to undertake to keep the peace for a period of 6 months, particularly towards his wife.	1899/107
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		05	07	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that certain parents had not ensured that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents involved and the children affected are shown in the subsequent entries.	1899/108
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Cole	Mary Jane	05	07	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that Mary Jane Cole of Southover had failed to ensure that her son, Albert Cole, attended school as frequently as required by the law. At a hearing on 14 July the justices ordered Mary Jane Cole to ensure that her son, Albert, attended the school situated in St John Street on every day that it was open for school attendance.	1899/108a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hyett	Henry	Isaacs	Edward Henry	06	07	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	PC Hyett encountered Edward Henry Isaacs and his wife in Broad Street on 5 July. They were quarrelling loudly and Hyett advised them to go home. They moved on to High Street and renewed their quarrel. Hyett then warned them that if they did not stop, then he would have to arrest them. At that point Edward Henry Isaacs turned around and used obscene language to PC Hyett who arrested him and locked him up. A transcript of the words allegedly used was included in the documentation. At the time of his arrest Isaacs had £2.7s.9d in cash and a watch. At the hearing on 10 July Isaacs was fined 5/- with costs of 5/9d, the sum of 10/9d to be paid immediately; the full amount was recorded as paid.	1899/109
Knight	James	Barnard	William	08	07	1899	Obstructing the highway	O	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged William Barnard of High Street, butcher, with wilfully causing an obstruction to traffic in St Thomas Street by leaving a horse and cart there for an unreasonable time. PC Hyett testified that he had seen Barnard's horse and cart parked outside Edward Hawkins' establishment and had watched it for around 30 minutes. When he went in, Barnard came out of one of the rooms with a glass of beer in his hand. He then immediately got in his trap and drove away returning in a matter of moments when he threatened to report Hyett to someone in authority and launched a tirade about the role being played by the police. At the hearing on 10 July Barnard was found guilty and was fined 2/6d including costs.	1899/110
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		10	07	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that a number of parents had failed to ensure that their child / children had attended school as frequently as required by law. The parents and children involved are noted in the associated entries below. Note: there is no separate documentation for these cases. The only references are in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 July (see 1899/115) when the majority of the cases were adjourned for one month. Unfortunately, there are no petty sessions papers covering the period between 10 July and 15 August and it is likely that all the relevant documentation would be held in a bundle covering this period.	1899/111

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Say	Thomas	10	07	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Say of Priest Row was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Ellen Say. The case was adjourned for one month.	1899/111a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Say	Thomas	10	07	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Say of Priest Row was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Christina Say. The case was adjourned for one month for the production of a medical certificate.	1899/111b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Standard	Thomas	10	07	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Thomas Standard was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Sarah Standard. Standard's wife attended the hearing and explained that her daughter's 10-week absence was due to ill-health. The case was adjourned for one month for the production of a medical certificate.	1899/111c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Wolfe	Ellen	10	07	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Ellen Wolfe was summoned but no indication is included in the minutes of the child involved. Ellen Wolfe attended the hearing herself and stated that the doctor was attending her child. The case was adjourned for one month.	1899/111d
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	10	07	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Edith Edwards. Edwards' wife attended the hearing and explained that her daughter's absence was due to her suffering from an abscess. The case was adjourned for one month.	1899/111e
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Bowell	Sydenham	10	07	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Sydenham Bowell was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Frank Bowell. Bowell's wife attended and the case was dismissed on the basis of a promise that Frank would attend school frequently in the future.	1899/111f
Rummings	Charles Henry			10	07	1899	Vaccination exemption	Ve	Charles Henry Rummings of No 25 Sadler Street applied for a vaccination exemption in respect of his son, Walter Charles Rummings, who was born on 30 April 1899. The vaccination exemption certificate was granted.	1899/112
Richards	Henry			10	07	1899	Vaccination exemption	Ve	Henry Richards of Sadler Street applied for a vaccination exemption for his daughter, Gladys Maud, who was born on 4 April 1899. The vaccination exemption certificate was granted.	1899/113

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Scott	George			10	07	1899	Vaccination exemption	Ve	George Scott of No 34 Southover applied for a vaccination exemption for his son, Frederick John Scott, who was born on 24 March. Scott stated that he was a conscientious objector. The vaccination exemption certificate was granted subject to George Scott providing a certificate of birth for the child to confirm his age.	1899/114
Justices		Various		10	07	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 10 July. All the cases heard, with the exception of the applications for vaccination exemption certificates (see cases 1899/112 to 1899/114 inclusive), are documented in earlier entries. The exceptions are recorded solely in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting.	1899/115
Hyett	William Henry	Simons	Henry	15	08	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	PC Hyett charged Henry Simons of no fixed abode with being drunk and disorderly in Palace Walk on 14 August. At the time of his arrest Simons had 2d in cash in his pocket. Simons pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/116
Hyett	William Henry	Simons	Henry	15	08	1899	Assault on police officer	A	PC Hyett charged Henry Simons with assaulting him by trying to kick him and bite him after Simons had been arrested for being drunk and disorderly (see case 1899/116). In the fracas that ensued both Hyett and Simons finished up on the ground. Only with help from Robert Yelf (?) was Hyett able to arrest Simons and get him to the police station. At the hearing Simons pleaded not guilty to assault but the justices found against him and sentenced him to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet, this sentence to follow on consecutively from that imposed for his conviction for being drunk and disorderly.	1899/117
Police		Higgins	Martin	16	08	1899	Theft of meat	T	Martin Higgins was charged with the theft of a leg of mutton belonging to Mr W Parker and intended for Mr Slater. There is no information given about the role played by Higgins or how he supposedly stole the joint of meat. Higgins appears to have been given a sentence of one month in prison while the joint of mutton was to be given back to Mr Parker and the sum of 2/1d refunded to Mr Slater.	1899/118

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Knight	James	Higgins	Martin	16	08	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Mary Ann Evans ran a lodging house in Southover and Martin Higgins turned up there claiming that he had paid for his lodgings. Mary Ann Evans insisted he had not paid 4d for a bed and told him to go away and as he turned he knocked over a young lad with a surname of Loxton. Higgins unleashed a volley of filthy language and then offered to fight anyone in the house. He continued to shout abuse and use foul language until the police arrived. Police serjeant Knight heard the shouting some distance before he reached the crowd of people that Higgins had attracted. Knight considered him to be the worse for drink and arrested him. Higgins pleaded not guilty but the justices found against him and he was sentenced to 7 days in prison to run concurrently with the sentence for theft (see case 1899/118).	1899/119
Conduit	Mary Jane	Jackson	Lilian	21	08	1899	Assault	A	Mary Jane Conduit, an inmate of the Wells Union workhouse, complained that she had been unlawfully assaulted by Lilian Jackson, matron at the workhouse, on 12 August. Conduit claimed that she had done much of the cleaning that was her normal daily task when the assistant matron ordered her to scrub the needlework room and the chapel. Conduit complained that it was too much work to be done in the time allotted and she also had two bad legs so it was painful for her to carry out more scrubbing. The assistant matron sent her to the master of the workhouse, but while she was crossing the yard on the way there she was assaulted by the matron who had grabbed her and banged her head against the wall, knocking her senseless. She was then taken to the master's office and he locked her up in the tramps' room, put her on bread and water and ordered her to pick 2lbs of oakum. Lilian Jackson claimed that she had used no violence and that Conduit had been extremely abusive. Her view of events was supported by Adelaide Linham and James Vicary, two inmates of the workhouse. At the hearing on 18 September the justices were shown details of previous complaints about the behaviour of Mary Jane Conduit over the last five years. The case against Lillian Jackson was rejected and Conduit was ordered to pay the sum of 17/6d to the defendant for	1899/120

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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									was ordered to pay the sum of 27/6d to the defendant for costs. In the event of Conduit failing to do so, then distress proceedings would be initiated and if these failed to realise the sums required, then Conduit would be sentenced to 14 days in prison in Shepton Mallet. Distress proceedings were initiated on 13 October with the objective being to recover 19/6d including the costs of the distress warrant.	
Police		Eddington	John	21	08	1899	Drunkenness	D	John Eddington was charged with being drunk in High Street at around 10.20pm on Saturday 19 August. Eddington was said to be very drunk. He was also said to be holding a blind rod. At the time of his arrest he had 61/2d in cash in his pocket. At the hearing on 21 August Eddington was discharged.	1899/121
Hawkins	Albert	Mundy	Alfred	25	08	1899	Assault	A	Albert Hawkins of Mill Lane, labourer, complained that on 24 August he had been unlawfully assaulted by Alfred Mundy of Southover, marine store dealer. Hawkins acknowledged that he owed money to Mundy but claimed that he was paying it off at 1/- per week. On the evening of 24 August he had returned home from the Salvation Army to find Mundy at his neighbour's house. Mundy had come out and asked him for money, grabbing him by the arm. Hawkins stated that he did not have any money and Mundy struck him in the eye. Hawkins testified that he had then gone back into his own house to get a belt to defend himself, but Mundy had pushed open the door, knocked him down and struck him 2 or 3 times. Betsy Hawkins, wife of Albert Hawkins, gave testimony in support of her husband. Elsa Matthews, Hawkins' next door neighbour, asserted that Mundy had asked Hawkins for money in civil terms, but Hawkins had responded very discourteously and had threatened Mundy with a belt, although she did not see any blows struck. Mary Ann Sharland, another neighbour in Southover, stated that Mundy had been civil but Hawkins had struck him 2 or 3 times with the strap before Mundy caught hold of him and restrained him. Samuel Farley of Mill Lane claimed to have seen the incident and stated that Hawkins had struck at Mundy with the belt. The justices found against Mundy and fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/122

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Knight	James	Nonelle	Thomas	26	08	1899	Bicycle without lights	Rd	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Thomas Nonelle with riding a bicycle without lights between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise. The offence occurred in Priory Road at 10.25pm on 18 August. Nonelle pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs. Note: it is possible that the surname of the defendant could be Monelle.	1899/123
Furze	John	Reakes	John William	28	08	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant Furze charged John Reakes of Evercreech, drover, with being drunk and disorderly in Southover on 26 August. At around 11.30pm Furze had heard loud noises coming from a lodging house in Southover. It appeared that the landlady was trying to get a drunken Reakes into bed, but then wanted him out of the house. Furze attempted to assist her but Reakes became violent with lots of shouting and abusive language which disturbed the neighbourhood. At the time of his arrest Reakes had 10s/2d in cash in his pockets. He was found guilty of being drunk and disorderly and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/124
Foster	Robert	Stevens	Frederick	30	08	1899	Eviction notice	Ev	Robert Foster of Southover issued to Frederick Stevens of No 3 Southover a notice to quit that property consisting of a cottage and premises which he was renting from Foster on a week by week basis at 4/- per week. This notice was dated 12 August and Foster requested that he be released the property on 19 August. When Stevens had not released the property as requested, Foster issued a notice on 30 August that he would be formally requesting the justices on 11 September 1899 to grant a possession order in his favour. At the hearing on 11 September Foster reported that Stevens' rent arrears were 28/-. Stevens attended the hearing and indicated that he would leave the property but had been unable to find suitable accommodation for himself, his wife and 3 children. The justices authorised the issue of a possession order in favour of Robert Foster to become effective in 22 days.	1899/125
Police		Bishop	Emily	01	09	1899	Drunkness	D	Emily Bishop was charged with being drunk in East Liberty but no date for the offence was given. She pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/126

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Hyett	Henry	Rich	John	04	09	1899	Drunkenness	D	PC Hyett charged John Rich with being drunk in St Cuthbert Street at around 6.15pm on 2 September. Rich pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined £1 including costs or to spend 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. At the time of his arrest he was said to have no cash on his person.	1899/127
									<p>Mary Lavinia Hudson of No 3 Ethel Street claimed that James George Watts of of Seeds Farm, Upton Cheyney, Bitton in Gloucestershire was the putative father of her daughter that had been born out of wedlock in Keynsham workhouse on 29 July. Hudson and her daughter had then been transferred to the workhouse in Wells because Hudson had been born at Draycott. She had left the workhouse in Wells last Thursday. Mary Lavinia Hudson had gone to work for Watts as a housekeeper at the end of September 1898. She said that Watts had initially been very kind to her. She had been invited to join some family gatherings and she claimed that after a party on 9 November Watts had come to her bedroom at around 2.00am and they had had sex (Watts and his family denied that there had been a party at that time but they did concede that there was singing around the piano on most evenings). Hudson and Watts had sex on several further occasions before Christmas but Hudson did not realise that she was pregnant until April 1899. As soon as Watts was made aware of her pregnancy he terminated her employment and she left his service in June 1899. He did offer to help and support her and paid for her to see several doctors to confirm her pregnancy. However, he sought to deny that the child was his. On 4 September the justices</p>	

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Hudson	Mary Lavinia	Watts	James George	04	09	1899	Bastardy	B	<p>deny that the child was his. On 7 September the justices agreed that Hudson had provided them with sufficient information that she could summons Watts to answer the charge that he was the father of her child.</p> <p>Prior to this action there had been correspondence between Mary Lavinia Hudson (and/or her representatives) and solicitors in Bristol representing Watts. Watts' solicitors frequently referred to the possibility of raising countercharges against Hudson, perhaps involving theft and other offences, but always writing in hostile and threatening terms.</p> <p>At the hearing on 18 September (for which there are copious minutes, see 1899/137) Hudson was asked extensively about her supposed engagement to someone called Child and her potential intimacy with other men (all of which she denied), while several witnesses for the defence stated that Hudson had talked of Child being her fiance. Watts' counsel also argued that he could not have been the father because the baby born in July was full term and they claimed that sexual relations with Watts had been only in December 1898 (rather than early in November). The justices found that the case against Watts for being the putative father of the child had been proven and ordered that he should pay the sum of 3/6d per week until the child reached the age of 14. (this was the sum that Watts' solicitors warned Hudson would be the maximum that the justices would award). In addition, Watts was ordered to pay the sum of £4.12s.6d to Hudson to compensate for the costs which she had incurred in obtaining the order against Watts.</p>	1899/128
Knight	James	Price	Jane	05	09	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	<p>Police serjeant James Knight charged Jane Price of South Street, charwoman, with being drunk and disorderly in South Street on 26 August. The justices were provided with a list of Price's 5 recent convictions between July 1895 and August 1899; the offences were varied and included theft (1895/104), obscene language (1895/139), cruelty to a child (1896/085 and 1897/047) and drunkenness (1898/158). Jane Price was found guilty and fined 10/- including costs or to spend 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet. Jane Price went to prison.</p>	1899/129

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
				DD	MM	YYYY			Ref. No.	
Knight	James	Blacker	William	05	09	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged William Blacker of St Thomas Street, gardener, with being drunk and disorderly in St Thomas Street on 26 August. At the hearing on 11 September Blacker pleaded guilty and was fined 10/- including costs or to spend 7 days in prison. He paid 5/6d immediately and was given until Saturday (16 September) to pay the balance.	1899/130
Knight	James	Hawkins	James	05	09	1899	Obstructing the highway	O	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged James Hawkins of St Thomas Street, haulier, with wilfully obstructing the highway in the Market Place on 28 August by leaving a waggon parked there outside The Royal Oak. Hawkins pleaded guilty and was fined 1/- with costs of 8/-. The fine and the costs were recorded as paid.	1899/131
Richards	Thomas Gilbert	Taylor	Walter	06	09	1899	Absent from work without leave	Ab	Thomas Gilbert Richards of The White Hart Hotel in Sadler Street complained that Walter Taylor now said to be of Minehead, groom, had absented himself from work on 28 August without leave or notice and continued to be absent from work. Richards therefore claimed the sum of £5 in compensation for the loss of Taylor's services. Taylor was said to be residing with Charles Trevena of Minehead for whom he was acting as groom. Taylor had been employed by Richards as a groom at a wage of 7/- per week with board and lodging provided. As a good horseman he was hired by certain owners to ride their horses at various events during the summer. Taylor had absented himself just before important shows at Bruton and Shepton Mallet where he had been retained to ride certain horses. It appeared that Taylor had been swayed by an offer from Gilbert Coles, but it meant that Richards needed to hire replacements to fulfil the rides for which Taylor had been booked. Richards also needed to re-hire James Tidball of Southover, an ostler who had been displaced in Richards' service when Taylor was hired. At the hearing on 11 September the justices determined that Richards should be awarded compensation of £4 plus costs of 12/-. Taylor was instructed to pay these sums at the rate of 5/- per week with the first instalment to be paid on 18 September.	1899/132

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
									<p>By 18 October Taylor was shown to be in default with respect to the payments and a distress warrant was issued. At this point the amount to be levied under the distress warrant was recorded as £1.7s.0d.</p> <p>On 21st of November a revised distress warrant recorded an amount to be levied under the warrant as £2.4s.0d.</p> <p>Then on 27 November a cheque was submitted by Mr Charles Trevenna of Minehead via the police in Minehead for £1.7s.0d in the belief that this would clear the outstanding debt.</p> <p>On 27 January a further distress warrant was issued with the amount to be levied shown still as £2.4s.0d, suggesting that the earlier cheque had, for some reason, not been set against the outstanding debt.</p>	
Police		Drimond	Andrew	06	09	1899	Drunkenness	D	Andrew Drimond was charged with being drunk in Queen Street on 5 September. He was reported as being staggering drunk and he pleaded guilty to the charge. The case against him was dismissed on the condition that he went on and left Wells.	1899/133
Police		Johnson	William	07	09	1899	Drunkenness	D	William Johnson was charged with being drunk on Cathedral Green on 6 September. Johnson pleaded guilty and was fined 3/- plus costs. The fine and costs were recorded as paid.	1899/134

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Slade	George	Hooper	??	11	09	1899	Removal of goods	Rg	George Slade testified that he had been renting a cottage at No 9b Silver Street to Mr Hooper at 2/- per week. Slade had been experiencing difficulty in getting the rent from Hooper on a regular basis and he had approached Hooper about clearing the debt which had reached £1.16s.0d. Hooper asked if he could sell some of his possessions that were in the cottage in order to bring in money to discharge the debt. Slade claimed that he had given a firm no to Hooper because he would then be unable to distrain against those assets as a means of recovering the debt. Hooper had then gone ahead and sold some items to Albert Rose for the sum of 23/-. Rose stated that he had indeed bought goods from Hooper who had told him he had an arrangement with Slade to pay the rent arrears at so much per week. The justices determined that Hooper had fraudulently removed goods from the cottage and ordered him to pay the sum of 46/- plus costs which were listed as being 14/-. Note: the only source of documentation for this case are the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 September (1899/136) and these minutes do not give the forename of the defendant.	1899/135
Justices		Various		11	09	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 September. With the exception of the case of Slade v Hooper (see case 1899/135) all the cases heard were documented separately and have been included in earlier entries, incorporating information from the minutes as required.	1899/136
Justices		Various		18	09	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting on 18 September. All the cases heard are recorded in earlier documents and relevant information from these minutes are incorporated in earlier entries. In particular there are copious notes on the cases brought by Mary Jane Conduit (see case 1899/120) and Mary Lavinia Hudson (see case 1899/128).	1899/137

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Hayes	Thomas	Barnard	William Charles	25	09	1899	Assault	A	Thomas Hayes of Southover complained that William Charles Barnard of High Street, butcher, had unlawfully assaulted him in High Street on 23 September. Hayes had apparently been out with Hawkins, one of Barnard's employees, and at the end of the evening they had returned to Barnard's shop in High Street. There had been some conversation involving Barnard's wife and then Barnard came out of his shop, exchanged some sharp words with Hayes and pushed him firmly in the chest, sending him onto his knees in the road. Hayes claimed that his trousers were damaged at the knee and that he had suffered an injury to his leg. Barnard subsequently wrote to him asking when Barnard's doctor might inspect the leg and the supposed injury. Edward Witcombe, bus driver, whose address was given as being with William Marsh of Silver Street, was summoned as a witness for the plaintiff and stated that he had seen Barnard strike Hayes and knock him down. Police serjeant James Knight was passing by on the other side of the road when he saw Barnard and Hayes having words before Barnard pushed Hayes in the chest. Knight was unable to say whether Hayes was on Barnard's premises at the time. The justices decided to dismiss the case for assault.	1899/138

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	
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									<p>Maud Baker, a single woman residing at The Swan Hotel, reported that she had been delivered of a child out of wedlock on 25 July 1899 and she alleged that the father of the child was Eustace Cory who was residing with Captain Hamilton at The Lawns Stables in Swindon, Wiltshire. There were two letters (undated but apparently from late 1898 or early 1899) from Maud Baker then residing at the Portcullis Hotel in Badminton near Chippenham, to someone called Dick telling him that she was in trouble and asking him to save her from disgrace by marrying her, given that he was the cause of the trouble. There were then a further two letters from Maud Baker (again undated), now residing at The Swan Hotel in Wells after the birth of her child. One letter is addressed to Mr Cory appealing for financial support for his child, while the second is addressed to someone else and referred to as Sir (possibly Captain Hamilton). The second individual had clearly responded to an earlier letter from Maud Baker and in her reply she suggests that Eustace Cory had previously promised to give her 2/6d per week for maintenance but now seemed to have reneged on his promise. This apparent promise had been obtained by a Mr Bradford who had acted as a</p>	

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Baker	Maud	Cory	Eustace	26	09	1899	Bastardy	B	<p>representative of Maud Baker and gone to see Cory at Mr Hamilton's in Swindon. Maud Baker suggested that she would like to see Cory horsewhipped.</p> <p>At the hearing on 9 October Maud Baker explained that she had been working as a waitress at the Goddard Arms Hotel in Swindon when she met Cory, a stable lad, at the Swindon Fair. She stated that they had walked out several times over the next two months, usually with another couple, and they had had sex by the side of the lane while the other couple walked on ahead. This happened on a number of occasions in October and November 1898. Cory had then gone to Barnstaple to work and the relationship ended. Maud Baker had then discovered in March 1899 that she was pregnant. Eustace Cory denied that he had been intimate with Maud Baker and suggested that she had also been going out with other men at the same time as she was walking out with him. In particular he pointed to an outing which Muad Baker had taken to Marlborough in the company of another man. He agreed that he had talked to Richard Bradford about offering weekly maintenance payments and had consented to Bradford sending him an agreement to complete but he had done so merely in order to get rid of Bradford. The justices concluded that the evidence offered by witnesses for the plaintiff was insufficient to provide corroboration that there had been a sexual relationship between Maud Baker and Eustace Cory and that there was therefore a lack of proof that he was the father of her child. The case was dismissed. Full details of the testimony were recorded in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 October (see case 1899/151).</p>	1899/139
Police		Plaster	John	26	09	1899	Drunkenness	D	John Plaster was charged with being drunk in the Market Place on 25 September. He was remanded in custody until 27 September. Plaster pleaded guilty to the charge.	1899/140
Coles	Harriett			26	09	1899	Licence extension application	La	Harriett Coles applied for a one-hour extension to her alcohol licence on 6 October in order to host the Wookey Hole Cricket Club dinner which was to commence at 8.00pm. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/141

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Bisgood	John	Webb	Emma	28	09	1899	Opening licenced premises outside permitted hours	L	John Bisgood of Glastonbury, deputy chief constable, charged Emma Webb of Priory Road, innkeeper of The Railway Tavern, with having her licensed premises open for the sale of intoxicating liquors at 11.30pm on Monday 11 September. This time lay outside the hours during which licensed premises were permitted to be open. Frederick Stevens of Southover was called as a witness for the prosecution. The hearing took place on 9 October where Mr Chubb, acting on behalf of Emma Webb, admitted the offence. She was ordered to pay the costs of the case amounting to 10/6d.	1899/142
Knight	James	Witcombe	Edward	28	09	1899	Obstructing the highway	O	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Edward Witcombe, bus driver, with wilfully causing an obstruction in Sadler Street on 22 September by leaving a horse and omnibus parked there for an unreasonable length of time, to wit 35 minutes, outside The Swan Hotel. The case was originally scheduled to be heard on 9 October but the hearing was postponed until 12 October. Witcombe was fined 5/- including costs.	1899/143
Jenkins	William Henry	Various		28	09	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that certain individuals had failed to pay the general district rate set on 4 April 1899. The individuals involved and the amounts owing are detailed in the following associated entries.	1899/144
Jenkins	William Henry	White	Joseph	28	09	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that Joseph White of Southover had failed to pay the general district rate set on 4 April 1899. Jenkins reported that White owed 6/- for the rate assessment plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 8/6d. The hearing was initially set for 9 October but postponed until 12 October. At the hearing on 12 October White did not attend and in his absence was ordered to pay the costs of 2/6d forthwith, otherwise distress proceedings would be commenced.	1899/144a

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Jenkins	William Henry	Knight	Richard	28	09	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that Richard Knight of South Street had failed to pay the general district rate set on 4 April 1899. Jenkins reported that Knight owed 12/- for the rate assessment plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 14/6d. The hearing was initially set for 9 October but postponed until 12 October. At the hearing on 12 October Knight, who appeared in person, was granted a period of one month within which to clear the outstanding debt which was assessed as being 16/6d, since the costs were now 4/6d. In the event of a failure to pay by 12 November distress proceedings against Knight's assets would be initiated.	1899/144b
Jenkins	William Henry	Oxley	Henry	28	09	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that Henry Oxley of Priest Row had failed to pay the general district rate set on 4 April 1899. Jenkins reported that Oxley owed 8/- for the rate assessment plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 10/6d. The hearing was initially set for 9 October but postponed until 12 October. At the hearing on 12 October Oxley did not appear and in his absence was ordered to pay forthwith the rate arrears of 8/- and the costs which had now been increased to 6/6d. Failure to do so would result in distress proceedings being initiated.	1899/144c
Jenkins	William Henry	Harris	Edward George	28	09	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that Edward George Harris late of St John Street and now of Priddy Place had failed to pay the general district rate set on 4 April 1899. Jenkins reported that Harris owed 4/2d for the rate assessment plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 6/8d. The rate arrears were recorded as paid.	1899/144d
Jenkins	William Henry	Trimmer	Alfred	28	09	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that Alfred Trimmer of St Thomas Street had failed to pay the general district rate set on 4 April 1899. Jenkins reported that Trimmer owed 19/6d for the rate assessment plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of £1.2s.0d. The rate arrears were recorded as paid.	1899/144e

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Jenkins	William Henry	Stanton	William Noah	28	09	1899	Non-payment of general district rate	N	William Henry Jenkins, collector for the city of Wells, complained that William Noah Stanton of St Thomas Street had failed to pay the general district rate set on 4 April 1899. Jenkins reported that Stanton owed 14/8d for the rate assessment plus a further 2/6d for costs making a total of 17/2d. The sum of 17/- was recorded as paid; it appears that 2d was written off.	1899/144f
Henderson	Sarah	Henderson	James	02	10	1899	Threats of assault	A	Sarah Henderson, wife of James Henderson of No 9 York Terrace, Burcot Road, asylum attendant, complained that her husband had repeatedly made violent threats towards her, including those made on 1 October, and she feared that he intended to inflict bodily injury upon her. She requested that he be required to put forward sureties to keep the peace and guarantee his future conduct towards her. The case was scheduled to be heard on 9 October but was postponed until 12 October. In the event neither party attended the hearing on 12 October.	1899/145
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		02	10	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the related entries below.	1899/146
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Barber	James	02	10	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Barber of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Reginald Barber. Albert Knight, principal teacher at the Central Boys' School reported that in the period to 29 September Reginald Barber had made 31 attendances when the school was open for 47 attendances. Reginald Barber, aged 11, was recorded as working at standard III. The case was originally scheduled to be heard on 9 October but was adjourned to 12 October and then again to 20 November. At the hearing on 20 November Barber's wife appeared and the case was dismissed.	1899/146a

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Barber	James	02	10	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Barber of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Annie Barber. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period to 30 September Annie Barber had made only 21 attendances when the school was open for 47 attendances. Annie Barber, aged 9, was recorded as working at standard I. The case was originally scheduled to be heard on 9 October but was adjourned to 12 October and then again to 20 November. At the hearing on 20 November Barber's wife appeared and the case was dismissed.	1899/146b
Serel	Edward Athelstane	White	Joseph	02	10	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Joseph White of Southover was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Kate White. Caroline Clements, principal teacher at the Central Girls' School, reported that in the period to 30 September Kate White had made 35 attendances when the school was open for 47 attendances. Kate White, aged 11, was recorded as working at standard III. The case was originally scheduled to be heard on 9 October but was adjourned to 12 October and then again to 20 November. At the hearing on 20 November it was noted that Kate White's recent attendance had not been regular with only 3 attendances out of 8 in the last week and 15 out of 28 in the last 3 weeks. White's wife appeared and a fine of 2/6d was imposed.	1899/146c
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Edwards	George	02	10	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Edwards of St Thomas Street was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Edith Edwards. Katherine Leiper Symington, principal teacher at St Thomas Girls' School, reported that in the period to 29 September Edith Edwards had made only 58 attendances when the school was open for 162 attendances. Edith Edwards aged 9 was recorded as working at standard I. The case was originally scheduled to be heard on 9 October with George Edwards being ordered to bring the child before the justices. However the case was adjourned to 12 October and then again to 20 November. At the hearing on 20 November it was noted that Edith Edwards had made 21 attendances out of 25 in the preceding 3 weeks. Edwards' wife appeared and a fine of 2/6d was imposed. Edwards was allowed one week within which to pay.	1899/146d

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Knight	James	Lane	Mary	05	10	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Mary Lane of South Street with using obscene language in South Street on 2 October. The hearing was initially scheduled for 9 October but the case was adjourned until 12 October. The justices were made aware that Mary Lane had two previous convictions for using obscene language, the first in 1891 (see case 1891/035) and the second in 1898 (see case 1898/038). At the hearing on 12 October PC Hyett reproted that he had found Lane In South Street where her husband had locked her out of the house. She was making a great noise and using very bad language which attracted a number of complaints from neighbours. Mary Lane was found guilty and fined 10/- plus costs of 9/- or to serve 14 days in prison. She was allowed until the following week to pay the sums involved.	1899/147
Justices		Lapham Dowling Thorn Hawkins Browne Chapman Bell Chapple Bray	Edward John Frederick Henry John Henry William Henry Frederick Walter William Frederick	05	10	1899	Appointment of special constables	*	The following men were summoned to appear before the justices on 9 October to be sworn in as special constables: - Edward John Lapham of South Street - Frederick Dowling of Burcot Road - Henry Thorn of St Cuthbert Street - John Henry Hawkins of Priest Row - William Henry Browne of South Street - Frederick Chapman of Southover - Walter Bell of Islington Cottage, Silver Street - William Chapple of South Street - Frederick Bray of St Thomas Street All those named were duly appointed on 9 October.	1899/148
Weaver	A C			09	10	1899	Licence extension application	La	A C Weaver of The Mermaid Inn applied for a one-hour extension to his alcohol licence on Wednesday 18 October to host the Quoit Club dinner. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: the application is documented only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 October (see 1899/151).	1899/149
Hewish	Llewellyn			09	10	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Llewellyn Hewish applied for the alcohol licence for The King's Arms to be temporarily transferred into his name. He produced a testimonial setting out his credentials as an innkeeper. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d. Note: the application is documented only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 October (see 1899/151).	1899/150

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Justices		Various		09	10	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 9 October. In addition to the licence applications (see cases 1899/149 and 1899/150) the minutes deal extensively with the assault case of Hayes v Barnard (case 1899/138) and the bastardy case of Maud Baker v Eustace Cory (case 1899/139). Other cases scheduled for this session were adjourned until 12 October (see minutes of that meeting in case 1899/153).	1899/151
Buncombe	Frank			12	10	1899	Vaccination exemption	Ve	Frank Buncombe of Cork's Place, Southover applied for a vaccination exemption in respect of his daughter, Ethel Gertrude Buncombe, who had been born on 18 July 1899. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 3/-.	1899/152
Justices		Various		12	10	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 12 October. This sitting dealt primarily with cases that had been adjourned from 9 October, in particular the cases involving non-payment of the general district rate (see 1899/144) and those brought under the Education Act (see 1899/146).	1899/153
Police		Salmon	Robert Charles	17	10	1899	Wilful damage to own clothing	Wd	Robert Charles Salmon was an inmate of the workhouse at Wells. He was said to have wilfully damaged his own clothing on the morning of 17 October and the cost of replacing the damaged items was put at 7/6d. Salmon had been due for release that morning but was now sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1899/154
Walter	T W			23	10	1899	Licence extension application	La	T W Walter applied for an extension to his alcohol licence on Wednesday 25th October in order to host the Foresters' Society dinner. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/155
Wilton	John			23	10	1899	Licence transfer application	La	Mr Rumsey, on behalf of Berryman & Co, applied for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Railway Tavern to John Wilton. The application was granted.	1899/156
Police		Berry	Edwin	24	10	1899	Drunkenness	D	Edwin Berry was charged with being drunk in Rowdens Road on 23 October when he was thrown out of his son's property because he had abused his son's wife and in doing so had used extremely bad language. Berry pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs with the fine to be paid before Saturday (28 October) or, in the event of a failure to do so, to serve 7 days in prison.	1899/157

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Henderson	Sarah	Henderson	James	26	10	1899	Cruel treatment of his wife	It	Sarah Henderson complained that the cruel treatment that she had received at the hands of her husband, James Henderson of No 9 York Terrace, Burcot Road, asylum attendant, had forced her to leave home and live separately from him. She claimed that the cruelty she had experienced on 25 October had prompted her to leave home, but she had been subjected to the same treatment for some time prior to that date. At the hearing on 26 October James Henderson pleaded not guilty. Sarah Henderson testified that on a number of occasions her husband had not only threatened her with violence, variously with a belt or a razor in his hands, but had also struck her with his fists. He was particularly difficult after he had been drinking and, amongst other things, had wilfully damaged some of their furniture and had torn up her best dress. Kate Pike of No 10 York Terrace, wife of Thomas Pike and the Hendersons' next door neighbour, testified that she had gone to the Hendersons house on Sunday lunchtime when she heard loud screams and found all the children in the yard except for the eldest boy who was holding back his father at the foot of the stairs. Kate Pike was prevented from seeing Sarah Henderson because James Henderson would not open the bedroom door. He	1899/158

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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									then pushed Kate Pike out of the house. Kate Pike stated that she had often heard James Henderson using threats of violence towards his wife. Elizabeth Jane Hawkins of No 3 York Terrace, wife of William James Hawkins, testified that she had been helping Sarah Henderson for a while and recently she had seen James Henderson, a little the worse for drink, threatening his wife with a strap. Sarah Standard of Burcot Road, wife of Thomas Standard, recounted a recent incident where she had been in the Hendersons house and James Henderson had been going for his wife with a carving knife in his hand, but Sarah Standard had managed to take it from him. Maggie Henderson, the 14-year old daughter of the couple, testified about the incident where her father had torn up her mother's dress. Sarah Henderson had presumably submitted an application for the right to no longer be required to co-habit with her husband on the grounds of his continued ill-treatment. However, the minutes of the hearing stated that the application was dismissed.	
Adams	William Arthur	Francis	James	28	10	1899	Cruelty to a horse	C	William Arthur Adams of Taunton, inspector of the RSPCA, complained that James Francis of Glastonbury, haulier, had been guilty of cruelty to a horse on 6 October by working the animal when it was clearly in an unfit condition to be worked. Adams had seen the horse in Broad Street where it was pulling a cart full of stone. The horse appeared to be lame and also looked as though it had a bad back. Adams stopped Francis and asked him to take the horse out of the cart so it could be examined. Francis refused to co-operate, even when instructed to do so by police serjeant Knight. Adams had gone to Glastonbury that evening to examine the horse but was unable to locate it. Police serjeant Knight confirmed that he thought the horse was lame and it flinched when touched suggesting it was in pain. Francis pleaded not guilty but at the hearing on 20 November the justices found against him and he was ordered to pay a fine of 20/- plus costs of 9/-; these sums were recorded as paid. Note: the name of the RSPCA inspector was initially shown as Allen but subsequently modified to Adams.	1899/159

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Knight	James	Church	Frank	30	10	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Frank Church of Chilcote in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, labourer, with using obscene language in St Thomas Street on 21 October. Church pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs (although the costs were recorded as being 8/-). The fine was recorded as paid.	1899/160
Knight	James	Stevens	Edward	30	10	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Edward Stevens of Rowdens Road, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in Queen Street on 21 October. Stevens pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d plus costs of 8/- making a total of 10/6d. This sum was recorded as paid.	1899/161
Knight	James	Creaton	William Henry	30	10	1899	Riding bicycle without lights	Rd	Police serjeant James Knight charged William Henry Creaton of Vicars Close, priest vicar, with riding a bicycle without lights between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise. The alleged offence took place on 23 October at around 10.25pm. Creaton wrote to the justices apologising for not being able to attend the hearing set for 20 November. He admitted a technical offence of getting on to his bicycle and riding for around 10 yards before remembering that he had not lit the bicycle's lamp and getting off again. He claimed that he had been significantly distracted by the momentous events of that evening's meeting at the Conservative Club (at which many of the justices had been present) and felt that the constable who had arrested him could have prevented the problem by advising him as he got on his bicycle that the lamp had not been lit. Creaton was fined 2/6d plus costs of 9/-.	1899/162
Dell Dell	Arthur Charles Harry Bendall	Stevens	John Pitts	30	10	1899	Absent from work without leave	Ab	Arthur Charles Dell and Harry Bendall Dell of Union Street, trading as Dell Brothers, builders, complained that John Pitts Stevens of South Street, labourer, had absented himself from their employ on 3 October without leave and without giving notice. Stevens had been engaged with the company for only around 10 days. He had worked until breakfast on 3 October, but then had not reappeared. At the hearing on 20 November the justices awarded the plaintiffs the sum of 5/- plus costs of 2/- making a total of 7/. Stevens was ordered to pay the fine and costs by 25 November.	1899/163

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Dell Dell	Arthur Charles Harry Bendall	Hares	Peter	30	10	1899	Absent from work without leave	Ab	Arthur Charles Dell and Harry Bendall Dell of Union Street, trading as Dell Brothers, builders, complained that Peter Hares of Southover, labourer, had absented himself from their employ on 3 October without leave and without giving notice. Harry Dell stated that he had had a disagreement with Hares the previous day over money and Hares' drinking habits. Hares had then failed to turn up with the result that the mason to whom he had been assigned was unable to work. At the hearing on 20 November the justices awarded the plaintiffs the sum of 5/- plus costs of 2/- making a total of 7/-. Hares was ordered to pay the fine and costs by 25 November.	1899/164
Woolf	Ellen	Francis	William	09	11	1899	Assault	A	Ellen Woolf of Glastonbury was staying at the house of her sister, Annie Trim, at No 4 St Thomas Place, St Thomas Street on 7 November. She complained that her father, William Francis, who also lived in the house, had deliberately struck her across the forehead with his stick resulting in her having two black eyes. Francis pleaded not guilty to the charge and Annie Trim testified that she had not seen him strike her sister but at a hearing on 20 November (see case 1899/172) Francis was found guilty and required to put forward a surety of £5 to guarantee that he would keep the peace for at least the next 6 months, particularly towards Ellen Woolf. In addition Francis was required to pay a fine of 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/165
Knight	James	Cock	Maurice	10	11	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Maurice Cock of Godney, drover, with using obscene language in High Street on 4 November. Cock pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs (although the costs were actually shown as 9/-). He was given until Saturday (11 November) to pay or to go to gaol for 7 days.	1899/166

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Knight	James	Tidball Pengeley Matthews	Walter John John	14	11	1899	Affray	Af	Police serjeant James Knight charged Walter Tidball of Southover, John Pengeley of Wells and John Matthews of Launcherley with making an affray in St John Street on 11 November. Pengeley claimed that he and his companion, James Toller of Tucker Street, had been set upon by Tidball and Matthews who both ran away when the police arrived. Charles Ashman of Southover was called as a witness to give evidence for the prosecution. At the hearing on 20 November Walter Tidball and John Matthews were each bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for at least the next 6 months and also required to pay 2/6d each towards the costs of the case. Pengeley was discharged.	1899/167
Willens	George	Various		14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	George Willens, one of the overseers of the poor, complained that certain individuals had not paid the poor rate set on 7 June 1899. The individuals who had failed to pay and the amounts involved are detailed in the succeeding entries in the sequence in which they are shown on the summary list. Note: from the entries on the list there is no summons for James White of Queen Street where the entry is struck through, presumably because he had paid before the summons was issued. There is also no summons for Henry Burt of Tor Street but there is no explanation for its absence.	1899/168
Willens	George	Weaver	Edward	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Edward Weaver of Union Street was shown as owing £2.0s.10d from June 1899 and £1.5s.6d from November 1898, making a total of £3.6s.4d. To this was added 2/6d for the issue of the summons bringing the total debt to £3.8s.10d. A pencilled note states that there is 2/6d to pay, implying that Weaver had paid all the debt bar the costs of the summons. At the hearing on 20 November Weaver was ordered to pay the costs.	1899/168a
Willens	George	West	Hannah	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Hannah West of No 7 Silver Street was shown as owing 7/6d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 10/-.	1899/168b
Willens	George	White	Joseph	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Joseph White of No 96 Southover was shown as owing 3/4d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 5/10d. White's wife appeared at the hearing. He was granted until Saturday to pay the sum owing for the poor rate, but no date for the payment of the costs was given.	1899/168c

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Willens	George	Hopkins	Robert	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Robert Hopkins of No 66 Southover was shown as owing 8/- plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 10/6d. A pencilled note recorded that all had been paid.	1899/168d
Willens	George	Lush	Charles Allan	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Charles Allan Lush of No 2 Ethel Street was shown as owing 14/8d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 17/2d.	1899/168e
Willens	George	Knight	Richard	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Richard Knight was shown as owing 11/10d for the poor rate plus costs of 2/4d (sic) making a total of 14/2d. Knight was given until 27 November to pay the outstanding debt.	1899/168f
Willens	George	Trimmer	Alfred	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Alfred Trimmer of St Thomas Street was shown as owing £2.18s.10d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of £3.1s.4d. Trimmer was recorded as paying £1.1s.6d on account and was given one week within which to pay the outstanding balance including the costs.	1899/168g
Willens	George	Cooper	Henry	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Henry Cooper of No 26 St Thomas Street was shown as owing 15/4d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 17/10d.	1899/168h
Willens	George	Weaver	James	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	James Weaver of No 4 Milton View was shown as owing 13/- plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 15/6d.	1899/168i
Willens	George	Perham	Joseph	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Joseph Perham of Priest Row was shown as owing 7/10d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 10/4d.	1899/168j
Willens	George	Morgan	John	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	John Morgan of No 14 St Cuthbert Street was shown as owing 9/8d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 12/2d. A pencilled note indicates that all the outstanding debt was paid.	1899/168k
Willens	George	White snr	Mrs Albert	14	11	1899	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Mrs Albert White the elder of No 8 Millers Gardens was shown as owing 6/4d plus costs of 2/6d making a total of 8/10d. She was excused payment of the poor rate and the costs. Note: the forename of Mrs White appears to have been Rhona.	1899/168l
White Hart Hotel				20	11	1899	Licence extension application	La	An application was made by The White Hart Hotel for a one-hour extension to the alcohol licence in order to host the Druids dinner on 22 November. The application was granted. Note: this application is documented only in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 20 November (see 1899/172). Those minutes appear to contain an error since they refer to the date of the Druids dinner as being 22 October instead of, presumably, 22 November.	1899/169

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Police		Ford	George	20	11	1899	Using obscene language	Pr	George Ford was charged with using obscene language in a public place. There is no case documentation other than the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 20 November (see case 1899/172). The minutes do not show where or when the alleged offence took place. Ford pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/170
Furze	John	Rich	John	20	11	1899	Sleeping rough	V	Police serjeant John Furze charged John Rich with sleeping rough. There is no case documentation other than the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 20 November (see case 1899/172). The minutes do not show when or where the alleged offence was committed. Rich admitted the charge and was sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour.	1899/171
Justices		Various		20	11	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 20 November. All the cases heard are documented in earlier entries with separate case documents, except for the application for a licence extension (case 1899/169) and the cases against George Ford and John Rich respectively (cases 1899/170 and 1899/171 respectively) which are only documented in these minutes.	1899/172
Knight	James	Richards	Clifford	22	11	1899	Obstructing the highway	O	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Clifford Richards of The New Inn, Wookey, innkeeper, with wilfully obstructing the highway in Tucker Street on 16 November by leaving a horse and cart unattended for an unreasonable length of time, in this instance more than 20 minutes. The justices were advised that Richards had a previous conviction for leaving his cart in the street in March 1899 (see case 1899/033). For the current case the justices found Richards guilty and fined him 10/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/173

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Allen	Charles	Smith	Christopher	25	11	1899	Obtaining money by false pretences	Fr	Charles Allen of Tor Street, painter, complained that Christopher Smith, travelling grinder, had obtained from him under false pretences the sum of 1/6d with the intent to defraud. Allen had given Smith 3 razors to sharpen. Smith insisted on taking them away and when he returned he demanded 3/6d. Allen refused to pay and after some discussion a compromise of 1/6d was agreed. However, when Allen tried the razors they would not shave. He had someone else try them and they could not shave either. Allen complained that the razors had not been sharpened at all. An arrest warrant for Smith was issued and he was brought before the justices on 27 November (see document containing details of cases 1899/175 and 1899/176). Smith was found guilty and given a fine of 10/- including costs. Smith held a pedlar's certificate and this was to be endorsed. Smith appears to have been unable or unwilling to pay the fine and went to gaol.	1899/174
Welchman	Stanley Lyne			27	11	1899	Licence extension application	La	Stanley Lyne Welchman applied for an extension of his alcohol licence (for The Crown Inn) until midnight for the day of St Andrew's Fair. The application was granted.	1899/175
Police		Baily	Charles	27	11	1899	Pedlar without a valid certificate	V	Charles Baily was arrested for operating as a pedlar but not having a valid certificate that could be produced. Baily pleaded guilty and was fined 5/- including costs, the fine to be paid at once. Baily went to prison for 7 days.	1899/176

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									<p>Margaret Sartain of No 26 Southover, single woman, reported that she had been delivered of a child out of wedlock on 1 November 1899 and she alleged that Albert Collier of High Street was the father of her child. Margaret Sartain called as witnesses for her case the following individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mark Wood c/o Mr J Walker of Salisbury (named as Arthur Wood in testimony) - Ada Jennings, domestic servant, c/o Revd. J Geldart of Westbury-sub-Mendip - Emily Barnard of High Street, wife of William Charles Barnard, butcher <p>In his defence Albert Collier called upon the following (although in the minutes testimony was only recorded from Aaron Wills):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - George Cooper of the College Library - William Charles Barnard of High Street, butcher - Aaron Wills of No 52 St Thomas Street <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thomas Hayes of Southover - John Marshall of The Goat Inn, St Thomas Street <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Henry Brixey, labourer - Hannah West of Silver Street, widow <p>- Mrs Nutty of Somerset Cottages, South Street, wife of</p>

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/Accusation		Document	
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Sartain	Margaret	Collier	Albert	28	11	1899	Bastardy	B	<p>the Rectory, or Somerset Cottages, South Street, Wells.</p> <p>Henry Nutty</p> <p>- Mrs Whitehead of Mill Lane, wife of Robert Whitehead, miller.</p> <p>The case was heard on 11 December and was extensively documented in the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of that date (see 1899/189). Margaret Sartain was employed as a cook in Canon Church's household in January 1899. Albert Collier, a married man with 3 children, called regularly at the property to take orders for produce. Margaret Sartain asserted that he tried to take liberties with her from the outset and by the end of January she had consented to go out with him. In early February he had dragged her into his house as she was passing by while his wife was away at a dance and they had intercourse there before she went to deliver some items to Mrs Emily Barnard. When she next met Collier she told him that she had talked to Mrs Barnard about their affair and Collier insisted that she should swear that it was a big lie. Collier then stopped calling at the Church household. By the end of February she knew that she was pregnant but took no action until September when she wrote to Collier and there were exchanges of correspondence with Collier's solicitors. Margaret Sartain gave birth to a baby boy on 1 November. She stated that she had come to Wells in November 1898 and had had intercourse only with Collier since she had come to the city. She had had to leave her job because of her condition and was now lodging at No 9 Southover at</p>	1899/177

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									<p>Mrs Gavin's house. Mrs Barnard had helped her find lodgings but was not helping her financially. Margaret Sartain was questioned at length about her relationships with other men including William Barnard and Robert Bagg, but she denied any involvement with them. Arthur Wood and Emily Barnard, both reluctant witnesses, testified that they had seen Margaret Sartain being pulled into Collier's house and had apparently seen her emerge some time afterwards. Albert Collier denied any impropriety had taken place between himself and Margaret Sartain and stated that he had never walked her down Lovers' Lane at the end of January as she had claimed, nor had he ever kissed her or taken liberties with her anywhere or at any time. On the night when Margaret Sartain had been seen entering and emerging from his house Collier claimed that Aaron Wills, bookmaker, had been with him all the time (as he was on most nights of the week) and his son, aged 12, was still not in bed. There was therefore no possibility of any intercourse as described by Margaret Sartain. Collier's assertions were supported by Aaron Wills. In the absence of firm evidence that intercourse had taken place between Margaret Sartain and Albert Collier the justices dismissed the case.</p> <p>Note: in her complaint of 28 November Margaret Sartain stated that she was living at No 26 Southover, but on 11 December in her testimony at the petty sessions sitting she noted that she was living at Mrs Gavin's at No 9 Southover.</p>	
Knight	James	Drew	Albert	01	12	1899	Keeping a dog without a licence	DI	<p>Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Albert Drew of South Street, drover, with keeping a dog without a valid licence. The offence was recorded as taking place on 25 November. Drew pleaded guilty to the offence, although he claimed that the dog that PC Mason had seen on 25 November belonged to someone called Duckett, while Duckett asserted that he had given the dog to Ashman. Drew was ordered to pay the costs of the case amounting to 8/-; the costs were recorded as paid.</p>	1899/178

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Knight	James	Packer	William	01	12	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged William Packer of Bath Road, mason, with being drunk and disorderly in the Market Place on 25 November. Knight found Packer lying on the ground after he had been in a fight with two men who had run away. Packer was clearly drunk but went home quietly when told to do so by Knight. Packer pleaded not guilty to the charge but the justices considered that he was drunk and fighting constituted disorderly behaviour. Packer was found guilty and fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/179
Knight	James	England	Herbert	01	12	1899	Riding bicycle on pavement	Rd	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged Herbert England of Glastonbury, mason, with riding a bicycle along the pavement in Priory Road when the pavement was intended for the use of pedestrians only. England stated that the road was undergoing repairs but pleaded guilty to the charge and was fined 2/6d including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/180
Knight	James	Ball	John	01	12	1899	Drunk and disorderly	D	Police serjeant James Knight of Town Hall Buildings charged John Ball of Mill Lane, labourer, with being drunk and disorderly in Broad Street on 27 November. The justices were advised that Ball had previously been convicted of being drunk on licensed premises in June 1897 (see case 1897/081). Ball pleaded guilty to the current charge and was ordered to pay 7/6d including costs; this sum was recorded as paid.	1899/181
Police		Savage	Tom	06	12	1899	Drunkness	D	Tom Savage was charged with being drunk in High Street on the evening of 5 December. He was found rolling in the gutter but, when arrested, he was quiet. Savage pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 5/- including costs. He was given until Saturday (9 December) to pay.	1899/182
Police		Whiteleg	William	07	12	1899	Drunkness	D	William Whiteleg was charged with being drunk in the Market Place on 6 December. He was sitting next to another man, very drunk and wearing nothing but his trousers. Whiteleg was said to have been in Wells for many years and had always been quiet. He was fined 5/- including costs; the fine was recorded as paid.	1899/183

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Police		Plenty	Stephen	07	12	1899	Drunkenness	D	Stephen Plenty was charged with being drunk in the Market Place on 6 December. He was sitting on the Conduit and when put on his feet he was unable to stand because he was so drunk. Plenty was found guilty and was fined 5/- including costs. He was given a week within which to pay and was recorded as making the payment.	1899/184
Huish	Mr			11	12	1899	Licence transfer application	La	An application was made for the alcohol licence for The Kings' Arms to be transferred from Mr Freeman to Mr Huish. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 30/-.	1899/185
Wilton	Mr			11	12	1899	Licence transfer application	La	An application was made for the alcohol licence for The Railway Tavern to be transferred from Thomas Brophy to Mr Wilton. The application was granted as there were no objections.	1899/186
George	F B			11	12	1899	Licence extension application	La	F B George applied for a one-hour extension to the alcohol licence for The Swan Hotel on Thursday (14 December?) in order to host a club dinner. The application was granted.	1899/187
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Various		11	12	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	Edward Athelstane Serel, an officer of the School Attendance Committee, complained that some parents had failed to ensure that their child/children attended school as frequently as required by law. The names of the parents and children involved are shown in the associated entries below. Note: there are no documents for the cases in this group and the only information available has been obtained from the minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 December. It is likely that the original documents are located with the petty sessions records for the year 1900.	1899/188
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Haskins	John	11	12	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	John Haskins was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Henry Haskins. Edward Serel reported that the boy was a habitual absentee and typically only attended for around half the time. John Haskins' wife attended the hearing. John Haskins was fined 2/6d.	1899/188a
Serel	Edward Athelstane	Batey	George	11	12	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	George Batey was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his daughter, Jane Batey. Edward Serel reported that Jane Batey would be 13 years of age in April 1900 and she had made 16 out of 18 attendances in the last two weeks. George Batey's wife attended the hearing where the justices adjourned the case for one month.	1899/188b

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Serel	Edward Athelstane	Perry	James	11	12	1899	Failure to ensure child attended school	Ed	James Perry was summoned because of the poor school attendance record of his son, Harry Perry. Edward Serel reported on the poor attendance of the boy and noted that his mother was out at work and his father was seldom at home. James Perry was fined 5/-.	1899/188c
Justices		Various		11	12	1899	Minutes of petty sessions sitting	*	Minutes of the petty sessions sitting of 11 December. A number of the cases heard are documented only in these minutes (see 1899/185 to 1899/188 inclusive). A substantial proportion of the minutes provides copious notes on the case of Margaret Sartain v Albert Collier (see 1899/177).	1899/189
Ashman	Edward James			23	12	1899	Licence transfer application	La	An application was made for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Full Moon Inn from Emily Ashman to Edward James Ashman with effect from 28 December. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/190
Grist	Sampson			23	12	1899	Licence transfer application	La	An application was made for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Rose & Crown from Edward James Ashman to Sampson Grist with effect from 28 December. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/191
Grist	Henry James			23	12	1899	Licence transfer application	La	An application was made for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for The Nag's Head from Sampson Grist to Henry James Grist with effect from 28 December. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/192
Tutt	Mary			23	12	1899	Licence transfer application	La	An application was made for a temporary transfer of the alcohol licence for the off-licence in St Cuthbert Street from Mary Sheppard to Mary Tutt with effect from 26 December. The application was granted on payment of the fee of 2/6d.	1899/193
Morgan	John			23	12	1899	Vaccination exemption	Ve	John Morgan applied for a vaccination exemption certificate for Winifred Ethel Morgan who had been born on 8 September 1899. The exemption was granted on payment of the fee of 2/-.	1899/194

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Meads	William	King	Thomas	26	12	1899	Drunk and disorderly Assaulting police officer	D A	PC Meads encountered Thomas King in High Street where he was drunk and using extremely bad language. Meads tried to persuade King to go home but King refused and tried to trip up the officer. King was then pinned to the ground on his back and he proceeded to lash out with his feet, kicking Meads in the chest. When Meads was assisted by PC Mason the same treatment was given to Mason. They got King to the police station with the assistance of Jacob Cook who was also kicked. At the police station King continued to kick and bite and police serjeant Knight reported that certain items had been broken. King was sentenced to 7 days in prison with hard labour for being drunk and disorderly, and a further 14 days in prison with hard labour for the assault on the police officers.	1899/195