

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
1830										
No Wells Petty Sessions papers survive for this year.										
1831										
[Missing for photography]									10-Oct-13	1831/001
Willcox	Samuel	Watts	John	04	01	1831	Failure to complete agreed contract	Nc	Willcox contracted Watts, a drover late of Wells, to drive a herd of 12 heifers from Bristol to Kingston in Surrey. Watts had had to leave one of the heifers near Bath as payment for accommodation of the herd for 3 days and nights. Willcox had then had to pay £3.2s.0d in order to regain possession of his herd. Watts had failed to complete his contract and was remanded in custody pending a trial at the next Assizes.	1831/001a
Bown	Elizabeth	Surbutt	James	12	08	1831	Assault	A	Elizabeth Bown claimed to have been assaulted by Surbutt, a labourer. Surbutt was found guilty of the offence and was required to pay the sum of £5 to Thomas Barnes, one of the Overseers of the Poor for the In Parish of St Cuthbert. Surbutt failed to make immediate payment of this sum and was committed to prison for 2 calendar months unless the fine was paid before that time.	1831/001b
Westcoatt	James	Moyston jnr	John	12	09	1831	Assault	A	James Westcoatt, the son of Mary Westcoatt, complained that he had been assaulted by John Moyston the younger who had given him a black eye and struck him on the thigh. Moyston was found guilty of assault and required to pay a fine of 5/- with costs of 7/6d. He appears not to have paid these sums as he was committed to prison for 14 days unless the monies were paid earlier.	1831/001c
[Justices]		Filer	James	29	10	1831	Application for licence to sell game	La	James Filer, a shopkeeper, applied for a licence to purchase game from those authorised to sell game and then to sell the said game in his shop. The magistrates granted him a licence but required him to display a board outside the front of his shop bearing his name and the text 'Licensed to deal in game'. The licence granted was to be valid until 15 July 1832.	1831/001d

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Burnell	Edward	Bartlett jnr Tilley	Emanuel William	19	11	1832	Fraud	Fr	Edward Burnell accused Bartlett and Tilley of defrauding his wife, Hannah, by attempting to pass off on her a fake £10 note supposedly issued by the Wootton Bassett Bank; the document was a fraudulent and worthless piece of paper. William Henry Fowles and others provided witness testimony. Bartlett and Tilley were remanded in custody pending a trial at the next Quarter Sessions.	1831/001e
Andrews	George	Besley	James	21	11	1831	Assault	A	Andrews of Easton claimed that Besley had struck him in the mouth without any provocation. The incident took place near the Red Lion in Wells and was witnessed by Jacob Savage, also of Easton. Besley was fined 5/- with costs of 10/- or, in default of payment, to be imprisoned for one calendar month.	1831/002
Wills	Elizabeth Lucinda	Bickley	Honor	21	11	1831	Assault	A	Elizabeth Lucinda Wills was the wife of John Wills. She claimed that she had lent a bed to Honor Bickley and when she went around to collect it, she was pushed out of the house and had a pail of water thrown over her. Bickley was fined 5/- with costs of 10/- or, in default of payment, to be imprisoned for one calendar month.	1831/003
Ward	Jane	Cottell	James	14	12	1831	Assault	A	James Cottell lived in Chamberlain Street and had become incensed by someone ringing his door bell and running away. When it happened again he went out of the house in pursuit and came across Jane Ward, servant to Mr Foster, who was walking towards Grove Lane; this was the opposite direction to that taken by the young men who had supposedly rung the bell. Cottell had grabbed Jane Ward by the arm and marched her to his house, demanding her name. She protested her innocence but to no avail. Testimony was provided by Mary Boyce and William Puddle (passers-by) and Sarah Green and Betsy Banwell, servants of Mr Cottell. No evidence against Jane Ward was offered. Cottell appears to have been fined 18/- with costs of 12/-.	1831/004
Durbin	George	Hawker Wilcox	Mary Ann Abraham	21	12	1831	Theft of money	T	Mary Ann Hawker and Abraham Wilcox were charged with stealing the sum of 7/- from George Durbin. Both defendants were committed to prison pending their trial at the next Quarter Sessions.	1831/004a

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Collins	Thomas	Murrow Bird Isgrove Gibbons	John Edwin Joseph William	26	12	1831	Assault	A	Collins had been on duty as a watchman on Christmas Eve. He had come across Murrow and Bird attempting to make mischief with Mr Fry's gig, but with the assistance of John Isaacs, a night constable, trouble was averted. However, later, at around 3am, Collins encountered Murrow and Bird again. They tried to take him to prison and were joined by Isgrove and Gibbons and proceeded to drag Collins forcibly towards the prison. Collins was actually pleased to go to the prison for his own protection, even though Benjamin Brooks initially refused to take him in. Murrow and Bird were each fined 30/- with costs of 10/-, or, in default of payment, one month in prison. Gibbons was fined 10/-, including costs, or 14 days in prison, while Zsgrove was fined 50/- with costs of 10/- or, in default of payment, to serve 2 months in prison. A document was issued committing Isgrove to prison for two calendar months unless the fine and costs were paid earlier. The document also contains a (later?) pencilled reference to William Gibbons, but there is no indication that he was committed to prison.	1831/005
Brooks	Benjamin	Hill	David	26	12	1831	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constables of Wells, charged Hill with having his beerhouse open for the sale of alcohol beyond 10.00pm in contravention of his licence. Several people were in the house and there was drink on the table, and those in the house were not lodgers. Hill was fined £5, including 10/- in costs, as it was his second offence. Note: the submission to the Treasury shows that the sum of £5 payable by Hill was split equally between the fine itself and the costs of the case.	1831/006
Brooks	Benjamin	Cook	William	26	12	1831	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constable of Wells, charged Cook with keeping his beerhouse open beyond the statutory hour of 10.00pm. Cook had his beerhouse still open at 10.25pm. Cook was fined 40/-, including costs of £1, or, in default of payment, to serve 14 days in prison.	1831/007

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Brooks	Benjamin	Emery	Joseph	26	12	1831	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constables of Wells, charged Emery with an offence against his licence by maintaining a disorderly house. There appeared to be evidence that many ladies of the town frequented Emery's house. As it was his first offence, Emery was fined 40/- with costs of 10/-, payment to be made within 7 days. Note: the submission to the Treasury shows that Emery was required to pay £2.10s.0d, with the fine being £1 and the costs £1.10s.0d.	1831/008
Brooks	Benjamin	Clements	John	26	12	1831	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constables of Wells, charged Clements with having his beerhouse open beyond the statutory licensing hours of 10.00pm. The chief constable, John Jerrard, visited the beerhouse at around 10.30pm and found several people there with playing cards on the table, although the players claimed that they had stopped playing before the constables arrived. Clements was fined £5, including costs of 10/-, for his second offence. Note: the submission to the Treasury shows the amount of £5 payable by Clements to be split equally between the fine itself and the costs of the case.	1831/009
1832										
Clements	Charlotte	Rees	William	06	02	1832	Breach of the peace	Dp	Clements had been asked to pawn some candlesticks by Rees but she refused because she thought that they may have been stolen from the Bull's Head and she advised Mrs Chester, the landlady, what may have happened. Rees then threatened Clements on more than one occasion with physical violence and appears to have struck her at least once. She feared for her safety if going out after dark and appealed for Rees to have to put forward sureties as to his future conduct.	1832/001
Dowling	Daniel	White	George	11	02	1832	Theft of tools	T	Dowling claimed that he had items stolen from his waggon house in Burcott; specifically two vices and a wheel from a wheelbarrow. According to information he had received these items had been stolen by George White and could now be found on White's premises in Tucker Street.	1832/002

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Hearn	Lewis	Hawkins Isaacs	Henry John	19	03	1832	Assault	A	Hearn claimed that Hawkins and Isaacs, two watchmen, turned up at the house of Mary Westcoat on Grope Lane and forced the door of the premises, despite the efforts of the lady to keep them out. However, they left without taking either Hearn or Mary Westcoat into custody. Mary Westcoat had her arm damaged when the door was forced open. Hawkins and Isaacs were each fined 15/- with costs of 7/6d or to be sent to prison for 1 month. Note: A financial statement submitted to the Treasury shows the fines as being 5/- each with total costs of 7/6d. Isaacs appears not to have paid the sums required and was committed to prison for a period of one month.	1832/003
Hearn	Lewis	Murrow	John	19	03	1832	Assault	A	Hearn was a labourer who lived at the house of Mary Westcoat in Grope Lane. He claimed that early on a Sunday morning he heard a window being broken in the house. He went to investigate and saw that John Murrow was the culprit. Murrow then attacked him and struck him several times before Hearn was able to grapple with him and throw him down. Note: The timing of this incident in relation to 1832/003 is not clear. Murrow appears to have been required to pay £2 of which £1.4s.6d was levied as a fine and the remainder as costs.	1832/004
Parsons	Joseph	Toogood	John	19	03	1832	Absconding apprentice	Ab	Parsons, a brush manufacturer, claimed that he had taken on Toogood as an apprentice but that he had proved to be unsatisfactory. Toogood had absented himself from work frequently over the last 6 months. Toogood was considered to be guilty of failing to meet the terms of his apprenticeship and was sentenced to serve one calendar month in prison.	1832/004a
Haggs	William	Rees	William	25	03	1832	Assault	A	Haggs claimed that he was walking home to Tucker Street with William Edwards when they were assaulted by two other men, thought to be Rees and Joseph Isgrove, near the Mermaid Inn. Rees, not only knocked Haggs over but also stole his hat. Both assailants ran off when Edwards shouted for help. Testimony was also obtained from Joseph Loxton and Joseph Isgrove.	1832/005

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Brampton	James	Oxley	James	26	03	1832	Absconding apprentice	Ab	Brampton had taken on Oxley as an apprentice but Oxley had absented himself from work on several occasions. The magistrates appeared to support his imprisonment for 14 days and even suggested that he should be whipped. Note: the document appears to be partly overwritten by a similar offence for Joseph Cox.	1832/005a
Morgan	Thomas	Rees Isgrove	William Joseph	28	03	1832	Assault	A	Morgan, a labourer of Horse Batch in Wookey, claimed that he was assaulted as he was leaving the Mermaid Inn to go home. There were a number of people already fighting as he left the pub and Rees came up to him and struck him several times, knocking him over. As he lay on the ground, Isgrove came up and struck him several further blows. In the skirmish Morgan claimed to have lost his hat and two neckerchiefs, although he admitted that he did not see either Rees or Isgrove take them. Note: It appears that Isgrove may have had to put forward two sureties of £50 and was required to give evidence against Rees and James Knight on a charge of felony.	1832/006
Harvey	James	White	Fanny	29	03	1832	Theft of trunk	T	Harvey, a trunkmaker in Bath, delivered a trunk to an address in Barton Street in Bath. The lady of the house claimed that she could not confirm whether she would take the trunk until her husband returned home, but she would contact Harvey that evening or early next morning. She did neither and when Harvey went back to the house, he found that she had absconded - with the trunk. He had found her and arrested her in Wells.	1832/007
Brooks	Benjamin	Saunders	William	09	04	1832	Obstruction of footpath	O	Brooks, described as a street warden, claimed that Saunders, a grocer, had obstructed the footpath by placing a barrel, three boxes and a quantity of cheese outside his shop. Saunders was fined 40/-, but the fine was mitigated to 30/- including costs.	1832/008
Parsons	Joseph	Knight	George	09	04	1832	Absentee apprentice	Ab	Parsons, a brushmaker, complained that Knight, one of his apprentices, had absented himself from work and had generally shown himself to be an unsatisfactory apprentice. Parsons' complaint was supported by the testimony of James Bickley, one of his employees.	1832/009

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Jervis	John	Matthews	Henry	12	04	1832	Absentee apprentice	Ab	Jervis, a tallow chandler, complained that Matthews, his apprentice, had absented himself from work without permission and had not returned.	1832/010
Bartlett	Joseph	Bartlett	Benjamin	23	04	1832	Assault	A	Joseph Bartlett and his brother, Benjamin, got into a fight over their dogs. It appears that the dogs were fighting and Benjamin threw a large stone at Joseph's dog. The two brothers then became involved in a skirmish in which Benjamin attacked Joseph and knocked him down. Benjamin Bartlett was fined £1 with costs of 10/- or to be imprisoned for one calendar month.	1832/011
Loxton	Mary	Norman	Sarah	23	04	1832	Assault	A	Mary Loxton, wife of John Loxton, a labourer, claimed that Sarah Norman, a single woman, had struck her three times with her fist and tore her cap. Norman also held a knife in her hand and threatened to stab her with it if Loxton were to strike any child of Norman's. Loxton claimed that she had offered no provocation for the assault. Sarah Norman was convicted for the offence and required to pay 2/6d in damages and 7/6d in costs or to go to gaol for 14 days. She was unable or unwilling to pay the sums involved and was therefore sent to prison for 14 days.	1832/012
Ferrett	Stephen	Creighton	Grace	24	04	1832	Throwing contents of chamber pot into a well	E	Maria Ferrett, daughter of Stephen Ferrett, claimed that she had seen Grace Creighton, wife of William Creighton, throw the contents of a chamber pot into a well owned by her father. Henrietta, another daughter, stated that she had drawn water from the well and found that it had been polluted by something thrown into it.	1832/013
Jervis	John	Matthews	Henry	02	05	1832	Assault	A	Jervis, a tallow chandler, claimed that Matthews, his apprentice (see also 1832/011) had disobeyed him when asked to help the maidservant clean the silver. Matthews seems to have gone to a local beerhouse (run by Mrs Hill) to meet his brother. When Matthews had returned there had been an argument in which Jervis had struck his apprentice with the flat of his hand and Matthews had then called upon assistance from his brother who had been outside. Jervis had called a constable and had Matthews arrested.	1832/014

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Dix	Sarah	Farish	James	03	05	1832	Assault	A	Sarah Dix, wife of John Dix, carpenter, complained that Farish had come to her house and demanded the money that she owed him (ten pence). She was unable to pay and he threatened her with a stick, as well as putting his fist in her face three times. In addition, he went out into the yard behind the house and denounced her to her neighbours as a thief. The complaint was dismissed.	1832/015
Millard	Eliza	Farish	James	03	05	1832	Assault	A	Eliza Millard complained that James Farish had come to her house in St John Street to demand that she pay a sum of money owed by her sister (1/-). Eliza suggested that her sister could call round to his house and pay the money. Farish then broke a chair on the ground, struck Eliza Millard with the chair leg and her sister, Mary Ann Millard, with the flat of his hand. He then struck the sisters again and caused further damage to a table. Farish was fined 1/- with costs of 7/6d, or to be imprisoned for 14 days.	1832/016
Willcox	Zebedee	Porter Sweet Isgrove	Henry John Joseph	07	05	1832	Assault	A	Willcox claimed that he was assaulted by the three defendants.	1832/017
Barnes	Thomas	Collier	Moses	21	05	1832	Neglect of wife and children	Ds	Barnes was one of the Overseers of the Poor. He claimed that Collier, a barber, was a person who could support his wife and 7 children by work, but had chosen not to do so. As a result, his family had become chargeable to the In Parish of St Cuthbert. Barnes requested that Collier should be charged as an idle and disorderly person. Collier was convicted and sentenced to 14 days in prison with hard labour.	1832/018
Gould	Sarah	Gould	Abraham	04	06	1832	Sureties for the peace	Su	Sarah Gould complained that her husband, Abraham Gould, had come home and assaulted her with a fire shovel. He had chased her through the house, bursting open doors that she had tried to lock and eventually she was forced to jump out of the bedroom window. Sarah went back to her house to ask for her clothes and was refused, and when she met her husband in the street he struck her several times before she was rescued by Mary Butler. Sarah asked that her husband be required to put forward sureties as to his future conduct. Gould was required to put forward £20 on his own account and find another surety of £20.	1832/019

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Short	Frances	Carver	James	02	07	1832	Assault	A	Frances Short, wife of Joseph Short, claimed that she was in the Market Place when she was hit by two large stones. The stones were thrown by Carver, who had apparently also thrown stones at Frances Short in Croscombe at an earlier date. Carver was fined 5/- with costs of 7/6d or to be imprisoned for 14 days with hard labour.	1832/020
Sweet	Ann	Wills	Joseph	02	07	1832	Theft of peas	T	Ann Sweet worked for William Tucker. She watched Wills in Tucker's garden filling his pockets with peas. Wills was sentenced to 2 calendar months in prison with hard labour.	1832/021
Loxton	Henry	Howells	James	02	07	1832	Assault	A	Loxton claimed that he was assaulted in the Market Place by Howells. He claimed never to have seen Howells before. At least one other witness supported his story, but two indicated that Loxton had actually struck Howells and the latter was the innocent party. The complaint was dismissed.	1832/022
Brice	Benjamin	Loxton	Henry	02	07	1832	Assault	A	Brice claimed that he was standing by the Conduit at the end of Market Place when Loxton came up to him and struck him; Loxton's brother then did likewise. Brice claimed that he was not drunk, although he had had something to drink. The complaint was dismissed.	1832/023
Meade	Edward	Matthews	James	12	07	1832	Theft of cabbages	T	Meade, an innkeeper, claimed that he saw Matthews coming out of his (Meade's) garden with two cabbages under his arm. Matthews admitted that he was going to eat the cabbages. Matthews was fined 1d (the value of the cabbages) with costs of 5/- or to be imprisoned for 1 calendar month with hard labour.	1832/024
Laver	David	Westcoat Norman Hunt Johns	James George William John	16	07	1832	Theft of gooseberries	T	Laver had been passing by the garden of Mr & Mrs Robinson when he saw two figures climbing over the wall (Westcoat and Norman). He saw them picking gooseberries and went to advise the Robinsons. The two miscreants (Norman was a young boy) were caught red-handed. Norman said that the others had told him that they had taken gooseberries earlier in the day and he was keen to get some. He had taken Hunt's cap to collect the fruit while Hunt and Johns stood guard. Westcoat, Hunt and Johns were sentenced to 6 weeks hard labour in Shepton Mallet but Norman appears to have been left off for providing evidence for the prosecution.	1832/025

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Mead	Edward	Hunt	Stephen	16	07	1832	Theft of hat	T	Mead complained that Hunt had a stolen a hat from his house. Hunt was remanded in custody until the next sitting of the Assizes.	1832/025a
Richards	Mary Ann	Dudderidge	James	16	07	1832	Non-payment for nails	N	Mary Ann Richards, wife of Samuel Richards, claimed that in November 1831 Dudderidge had come and asked her for 300 slate nails for his grandfather, George Webb. Webb had since been asked for the money on several occasions but had refused to pay because he had never asked for the slate nails.	1832/026
Bisley	James	Porter	Thomas	23	07	1832	Theft of potatoes	T	Bisley, a tailor, accused Porter of stealing potatoes from James Chester's garden. Bisley claimed that Porter had filled his pockets with potatoes. Porter was convicted and sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour.	1832/027
Maynard	Peter	Tilly	William	23	07	1832	Sureties for the peace	Su	PC Maynard found that a large crowd had gathered in High Street to watch George Batt and Joseph Isgrove fighting (see also 1832/029). Maynard instructed Tilly, who was the second of one of the men fighting, to stop the contest immediately. Tilly refused and the fighting continued causing a breach of the peace. Tilly was ordered to put forward a surety of £20 of his own money and secure either one £20 surety or two £10 sureties from other people as an assurance of his good conduct and willingness to keep the peace for the next 6 months.	1832/028
Isgrove	Joseph	Batt	George	23	07	1832	Assault	A	Isgrove, a labourer, claimed that he had been walking along High Street with Hugh Callow when Batt came up to him, struck him and knocked him down. Isgrove claimed that he had offered no provocation. Lewis, also a labourer, claimed that he had come out of the Joiner's Arms with Batt when Isgrove had come up and challenged any man to a fight. Batt had taken up the challenge, but did not strike Isgrove before the challenge was issued. Batt was fined 5/- with costs of 6/- (10/- according to the commitment document) or to be imprisoned for 14 days. Batt seems not to have paid and was committed to prison for 14 days.	1832/029

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Chard	Clement	Batt	George	23	07	1832	Assault	A	Chard was called upon by PC Maynard to assist him in arresting George Batt and taking him into custody. Maynard handed Batt over to Chard but on the way to the station Batt had wrestled himself free, struck Chard twice and then escaped down High Street.	1832/030
Brooks	Benjamin	Clements	John	30	07	1832	Offence against licence	L	Brooks claimed that Clements had his beerhouse open for the sale of alcoholic beverages at twenty to four on a Sunday afternoon against the terms of his licence.	1832/031
Parsons	Joseph	Binson	Henry	30	07	1832	Theft of clothes brush and buttons	T	Parsons, a brush manufacturer, claimed that Binson had stolen a clothes brush and a number of buttons. Binson was remanded in custody until the next sitting of the Assizes.	1832/031a
Brooks	Benjamin	Cook	William	06	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constables, accused Cook of having his beerhouse open for the sale of alcoholic beverages at twenty five to four on a Sunday afternoon in contravention of the terms of his licence. Cook was to be fined £10, as it was his second offence, but the fine was mitigated to £5 (split equally between costs and the fine itself) and he was given one week in which to pay.	1832/032
Brooks	Benjamin	Hill	David	06	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constables, accused Hill of having his beerhouse open for the sale of alcoholic beverages at half past three on a Sunday afternoon in contravention of the terms of his licence. Two men, Thomas Phipps and Henry Maule, were in the house at the time and there was drink on the table. Hill was to be fined £10, as it was his second offence, but the fine was mitigated to £5 (including costs of 10/-) and was required to pay the sum immediately. Note: the submission to the Treasury shows the sum of £5 payable to be split equally between costs and fine.	1832/033
Brooks	Benjamin	Foster	William	06	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constables, accused Foster of having his beerhouse open for the sale of alcoholic beverages at quarter past ten on Saturday night in contravention of the terms of his licence. Foster was to be fined £5 for a first offence, but the fine was mitigated to 40/-, with the costs being determined as £1 of this sum and the fine itself the remaining £1.	1832/034

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Brooks	Benjamin	Fry	John	06	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constables, accused Fry of having his beerhouse open for the sale of alcoholic beverages at four o'clock on Sunday afternoon in contravention of the terms of his licence. Fry was to be fined £5 for a first offence, but the fine was mitigated to 40/-, with the costs being set at £1 of this sum and the fine itself also being £1.	1832/035
Brooks	Benjamin	Creedy	Emma	06	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constables, accused Creedy of having her beerhouse open for the sale of alcoholic beverages at half past ten on Saturday night in contravention of the terms of her licence. Creedy was to be fined £5 for a first offence, but the fine was mitigated to 40/- of which the fine was set at £1 and the costs made up the remaining £1. Creedy was given a week within which to pay.	1832/036
Vowles	William	White	William	06	08	1832	Sureties for the peace	Su	Vowles claimed that, whenever he encountered White, the latter would abuse him and curse him. Vowles stated that he feared that White would do him some mischief and requested that White be required to put forward sureties as to his future conduct. White was ordered to put forward a surety of £40 and was bound over to keep the peace for 6 months.	1832/037
Robinson	Elizabeth	Hawkins	David	24	08	1832	Theft of silver spoon	T	Hawkins was accused of stealing a silver salt spoon belonging to Elizabeth Robinson. He was remanded in custody until the next General Quarter Sessions in Taunton.	1832/037a
Gould	Sarah	Winter Winter	Thomas Ann	24	08	1832	Assault	A	Sarah Gould, wife of Abraham Gould, a cabinet maker, complained that she had been assaulted by Thomas and Ann Winter. In addition to striking her, they had threatened to beat out her brains and forced her out of her house.	1832/038
Gee	Mary Ann	Hewett Johns	George George	25	08	1832	Theft of fruit	T	Mary Ann Gee, a single woman, heard people in Mr Rolle's garden next door to the prison. She saw Hewett and Johns in Mr Plowman's garden pulling Mr Rolle's plum tree down over the wall and picking the plums from it. Both men were convicted and sentenced to 1 calendar month in prison with hard labour.	1832/039

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Bowell	Joseph	Dudderidge	James	27	08	1832	Assault	A	PC Bowell was seen by two witnesses (William Western and John de Grass) to be struggling with Dudderidge in High Street near the City Arms. Bowell was heard to appeal for someone to assist him. Bowell then apparently struck Dudderidge over the head with his constable's staff before the latter then hit Bowell over the eye and cut it open. Neither witness saw the start of the incident and could not say who struck the first blow. Dudderidge was remanded in custody until the next General Quarter Sessions in Taunton.	1832/040
Fry	John	Bath	John	27	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Fry, described as a labourer, brought a case against John Bath, landlord of the White Hart, for serving ale during the hours of divine service. He apparently had beer served at 11.45am, while William Cook, Joseph Parsons and Thomas Maule were served beer at 4.15pm, both lying outside the statutory licensing hours. Cook (1832/032) and Fry (1832/035) had been prosecuted for opening their beer houses outside the statutory licensing hours and appeared to feel that Bath, as landlord of an Inn, Alehouse & Victualling House, may be treated differently.	1832/041
Cook	William	Farrow	William	27	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Cook, described as a turner (and also the operator of a beer house - see 1832/032), complained that Farrow, an innholder, had served beer to Samuel Francis at 11.45am on a Sunday morning, outside the statutory licensing hours. The complaint was quashed as no evidence was offered.	1832/042
Brooks	Benjamin	Hill	David	27	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Brooks, one of the constables of Wells, complained that Hill had sold beer in his beerhouse to Samuel Francis at 10.15pm, i.e. outside the statutory licensing hours. This would be Hill's third offence under the Beer Act. The case was dismissed.	1832/043

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Parsons	Joseph	Boyce	Richard	27	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Parsons, described as a labourer, claimed that Boyce, the innholder of the Mermaid Inn, had sold beer in his house during the hours of divine service, specifically at 3.30pm on a Sunday afternoon. Testimony from John Fry, also a labourer, confirmed that at 3.30pm there were several people in the bar and there was drink on the table; Fry was given a drink by Jacob Bartlett. On the other hand, Joseph Loxton, a tailor, claimed that neither Boyce nor his wife had drawn and sold any beer during the divine service - and they had positively refused to sell any beer in that period. Parsons, Fry and Hill, all of whom ran beerhouses, had paid the sum of 3/- to bring the case against Boyce.	1832/044
Hill	David	Chester	James	27	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Hill, described as a labourer, claimed that Chester, an innholder of the Bull's Head Inn, had served beer to himself and others, including John Fry, at 11.30am on a Sunday morning, outside the statutory licensing hours. Both Hill and Fry ran beerhouses and had been fined for opening their premises outside statutory licensing hours and wanted to ascertain that those who ran Inns, Alehouses and Victualling Houses were subject to the same regulations. Chester was initially fined £5 for the offence but this was mitigated to 40/-, including costs which were determined to be 16/-, setting the fine at £1.4s.0d.	1832/045
Parsons	Joseph	Murrow	James	27	08	1832	Offence against licence	L	Parsons, described as a labourer, claimed that Murrow, the innholder of the Golden Hart Inn in St John Street, had served beer to customers at 11.45am on Sunday morning, i.e. during the hours of divine service. Both Parsons and John Fry ran beerhouses and had been fined for opening their premises outside statutory licensing hours and wanted to ensure that those who ran Inns, Alehouses and Victualling Houses were subject to the same regulations. Murrow was initially fined £5 for the offence but this was mitigated to 40/-, including costs which were determined to be 13/- with the fine therefore being £1.7s.0d.	1832/046

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Willcox	Honor	Russell	Joseph	04	09	1832	Obstruction of roadway	O	Honor Willcox, wife of John Willcox, a grocer, claimed that Russell, a labourer, had left a cart in High Street in a way that caused obstruction to other road users. The vehicle was not being loaded or unloaded during the time in which it was left there.	1832/047
Willcox	Honor	Star	Frederick	04	09	1832	Obstruction of roadway	O	Honor Willcox, wife of John Willcox, a grocer, claimed that Star, son of Thomas Star, a labourer from Draycott, had left a cart in High Street in a way that caused obstruction to other road users. The vehicle was not being loaded or unloaded during the time in which it was left there.	1832/048
Bartlett	Thomas	Andrews Andrews	William John	07	09	1832	Theft of onions	T	Bartlett accused William and John Andrews of stealing onions from his field. The defendants were fined 2/- with costs of 7/6d and in default of payment to be imprisoned in Shepton Mallet for a period of one month with hard labour.	1832/049
Sims	James	Clements Allen	Caroline Ann	10	09	1832	Idle & disorderly persons	V	Sims, the beadle and night constable, came across a great noise and hubbub in Sadler Street caused by Clements and Allen who were quarrelling and behaving in a riotous manner, as a result of which a large crowd had gathered. The defendants, who were notorious prostitutes, were convicted of being idle and disorderly persons and sent to prison for one calendar month with hard labour.	1832/050
Parsons	Thomas	Bartlett	William	10	09	1832	Assault	A	Parsons had gone into the King's Arms for a drink. There he had met Bartlett who began quarrelling with him calling him a rogue, a thief and a liar before striking him. Parsons claimed to have offered no provocation. Bartlett was fined 5/- with costs of 10/- or, in default, to be imprisoned for one calendar month in Shepton Mallet.	1832/051
Hardy Maynard	James Peter	Norman Parsons	Sarah Sarah	16	09	1832	Riotous and indecent behaviour	V	Hardy of Ilchester and Maynard of Wells complained about the riotous and indecent behaviour in a public street of Sarah Norman and Sarah Parsons, both described as common prostitutes. Norman was committed to prison for one calendar month with hard labour and Parsons for 14 days, also with hard labour.	1832/051a

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Roberts Roberts	James Elizabeth	Kelly	Jane	11	10	1832	Theft of money	T	James Roberts and his wife, Elizabeth, complained that a purse containing around £13 had been stolen from the kitchen of their house in Water Lane while both of them were present. Their suspicions fell upon Jane Kelly who had been in their kitchen on at least two occasions in the period in which the money was said to have disappeared - and on both of these she was seen close to the cupboard in which the purse was stored and supposedly even had the cupboard open. Other people, including Serjeant Russell of the Guards, Mrs Collins, Mrs Clarke and the servant boy, Thomas Stevens, were all in the kitchen, but apparently without access to the cupboard.	1832/052
Brooks	Benjamin	Bird Filer	George James	14	10	1832	Theft of brass bell pulls	T	Brooks, one of the constables of Wells, reported that the brass bell pulls on the doors of Mr Lovell and Mr Robins had been stolen. According to information he had received, he suspected that Bird had perpetrated the thefts and the bell pulls were located at Filer's house. Brooks requested that a search warrant be issued. Note: A commitment document was prepared for Bird and Filer, but was not completed in full. It is not clear if the two were found guilty or what their sentence was - if any.	1832/053
Wiseman	John	Bonnet jnr	Joseph	16	11	1832	Sureties for the peace	Su	Wiseman had been at home in Priston Row when Bonnet had entered his house and demanded money. When Wiseman refused, Bonnet threatened violence. Wiseman feared that Bonnet would do him physical harm and requested that Bonnet be required to put forward sureties to guarantee his future conduct.	1832/054

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Boulting	Elizabeth	Green	Mary	20	11	1832	Theft of ring & shoes	T	Elizabeth Boulting was the wife of James Boulting, an innkeeper in High Street. Mary Green turned up at the inn and claimed she was the daughter of the Greens of Easton and she was to be collected by relatives from Glastonbury the following day. Elizabeth Boulting gave her food and accommodation on credit, but the next day Green then disappeared and did not return. At this point Boulting missed both her ring and a pair of shoes. William Farrow, a constable (?). found Green at Butleigh - with the ring and shoes - and arrested her. A commitment document was prepared after Green was convicted of the offence, but the document was not completed in full and most of the relevant information was omitted.	1832/055
Hill	John	Clark	George	01	12	1832	Assault	A	John Hill, a cordwainer from Cheddar, complained that he had been assaulted by Clark of West Pennard, who, without provocation, had struck him several times in the face. The case was dismissed.	1832/056
Brooks	Benjamin	Smith	Mary	01	12	1832	Vagrancy	V	Brooks, one of the constables of Wells, apprehended Smith, a known thief who, he believed, was using the fair as a means of committing criminal offences. Smith was sentenced as an idle and disorderly person to one calendar month in prison with hard labour.	1832/057
Ray	William	Smith	Stephen	01	12	1832	Assault	A	Ray, from Taunton, claimed that Smith had assaulted him at the fair in Wells by striking him a violent blow in the face. Ray stated that Smith was well-known as a thief and pickpocket and had previously seen him attempting to pick a farmer's pocket at a different fair. Smith was fined 40/-, including costs of 15/6d, or to spend one month in prison at Shepton Mallet.	1832/058
Westcott	Martha	Cox	Ann	04	12	1832	Theft of household effects	T	Martha Westcott lived in Bull Lane. In October 1832 her house had been burgled and 4 silver tea spoons, one plated spoon and 2 gallons of wine had been stolen. She believed that Ann Cox, then of Wells, but now of Meare, had stolen the property and that these effects were in Ann Cox's house in Meare. A search warrant was requested.	1832/059

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Godfrey	George	Hill	John	15	12	1832	Theft of an ass	T	Godfrey, a carpenter from Glastonbury, complained that he had a male ass taken from a field near Glastonbury in September 1832. Godfrey claimed that he had seen the ass in the possession of Stephen Parker, a constable. Parker claimed that he took the ass from John Hill.	1832/060
Vowles	Joseph	Phipps	Thomas	24	12	1832	Assault	A	Vowles claimed that he was assaulted by Phipps who had struck him a blow on the face with his fist.	1832/061
Boulting	John	Butt Butt	George William	24	12	1832	Assault	A	Boulting claimed that he had been attacked by the defendants on his way home from Wells; the incident happened in Portway. Boulting claimed that the Butts tried to rob him, he had fought with them and they ran off when two carts came along. William Butt claimed that Boulting had attacked him and that he had knocked Boulting down. John Sperring confirmed that Butt's testimony was more accurate. In any event, Boulting suffered a broken rib. The surname of the defendants may have been Batt rather than Butt; the handwriting is not clear.	1832/062
Hill	David	Matthews	James	27	12	1832	Theft of tea spoons, sugar tongs and coat	T	Matthews was charged with stealing a silver watch, 3 silver tea spoons, a pair of silver sugar tongs and a black coat, all the property of David Hill. The charge was based on the testimony of William Creighton. Matthews was remanded in custody pending his trial at the next General Quarter Sessions.	1832/063
Berryman	William Chester	Bown	William	27	12	1832	Theft of goods and chattels	T	William Bown, a servant employed by William Chester Berryman, was charged with stealing two fleeces of wool and a bag of various goods and chattels, all the property of his master. The charge was supported by the testimony of Charles Smith and others. Bown was remanded in custody pending his trial at the next General Quarter Sessions.	1832/064

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1833										
Badman	William	Edghill	Robert	14	01	1833	Non-payment of wages	N	Badman was a plasterer and tiler who had hired himself to Edghill for the sum of 18/- per week from September to November 1832. Edghill appears to have paid Badman a sum of money in most weeks, but this sum was less than the rate agreed at the outset. Badman claimed that he was now owed £2.12s.9d, and Edghill was refusing to pay.	1833/001
Coleman	Matthew	Knight	James	22	01	1833	Theft of cloth	T	Coleman claimed that he had delivered a length of cloth to Knight, a tailor, to be made into a pair of trousers that were to be delivered before Christmas. The trousers had not been supplied as agreed and Coleman claimed that Knight had pawned the cloth with Mrs Garnsey and had sold the pawn ticket to William Seal, another tailor.	1833/002
Treadwell	William	Giblett Giblett Penny	John George Burnett Harry	01	03	1833	Forgery	Fy	Treadwell accused John Giblett of counterfeiting a bill of exchange in an attempt to defraud him. Giblett was said to be aided and abetted by George Burnett Giblett and Harry Penny. Thomas Porch provided witness testimony for the prosecution. There is no indication of the outcome of the case since the essential details of the commitment document were not completed.	1833/002a
Loxton	Rosmen	Maynard	Richard	22	03	1833	Permitting drunkenness	L	Rosmen Loxton, wife of Joseph Loxton, accused Maynard, the licensee of a beer house, of infringing the terms of his licence by allowing her husband to get drunk on his premises. The case was quashed by the magistrate (John Lax, mayor of Wells) as no evidence was submitted by the plaintiff.	1833/002a
Nicholls	John	Adlam	John	29	04	1833	Malicious damage	Pt	James Huish, a servant of John Nicholls, surgeon, had been carrying a basket of medicines across the Market Place on behalf of his master. Huish claimed that Adlam had deliberately kicked the basket and had broken one of the bottles of medicine. Nicholls estimated the cost of the damage at 3/-. Adlam was fined 3/- with costs of 5/- or, in the event of default, to be imprisoned for 2 weeks with hard labour. Note: A financial statement to the Treasury shows the amount of the fine as 1/-.	1833/003

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Slater	William	Badman	William	29	04	1833	Assault	A	William Slater was the son of Jonathan Slater. He claimed that he had been in Mr Tucker's garden and had stood on part of William Badman's garden (possibly the ridges between rows of crops). Badman, a plasterer, had then chased after him, knocked him down and struck him violently several times. Slater claimed that he had not uttered a word to Badman before he was struck. Witnesses Catherine Isgrove and William Groves supported Slater's account. Badman was fined 2/6d with costs of 10/-, or, if in default, to serve 2 weeks in prison.	1833/004
Clements	Caroline	Tilly	William	29	04	1833	Petty trespass	Pt	Caroline Clements, matron of Wells Union workhouse, stated that she was woken during the night by the sound of windows in the workhouse being broken. She claimed that there were several men involved in deliberately breaking the windows, but she recognised Tilly by the gas light outside (John Watts and George Street were named in the summons but do not seem to have been charged). William Gibbons, a mason and inmate of the workhouse, also identified Tilly as breaking the windows. Tilly was fined 2/6d, the estimated costs of the damage, with costs of 10/-, or in the event of default, to serve 2 months in prison with hard labour. Tilly failed to pay the sums involved and was committed to prison for a period of two calendar months.	1833/005
Robins	Samuel	Chard	Clement	29	04	1833	Assault	A	Robins claimed that Chard, a shoemaker, had asked him for money to help him make a contribution to the cost of beer in The George where Chard had been drinking with John Martin, a yeoman from Wookey. Robins had refused and later Chard had attacked him in the yard outside, kicking him and then striking him on the head with a broom. Robins claimed that the assault was unprovoked and did not strike back until hit with the broom. Martin supported his testimony. Chard was ordered to pay a fine of 2/6d with costs of 10/- or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison. Chard did not pay the sums involved and was committed to prison for 14 days.	1833/006

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Holloway	William Robert	Clements	Frances	30	04	1833	Drunkenness	D	Holloway was an overseer at the Wells Union workhouse. He had found Clements, wife of James Clements and a pauper inmate of the workhouse, to be drunk and making a great disturbance with another inmate. Her general conduct was described as bad and refractory. Clements was sentenced to serve 14 days with hard labour in Shepton Mallet.	1833/007
Clements	Caroline	Fry	Sarah	30	04	1833	Receiving stolen property in exchange for beer	Rv	Caroline Clements, matron of Wells Union workhouse, stated that a petticoat belonging to the workhouse had been issued to Charlotte Gibbons, daughter of Mary Gibbons. This same petticoat had been effectively pawned by Mary Gibbons to Sarah Fry, a beer house licensee with her husband, John, in exchange for 3 pints of beer. Sarah Fry accepted the petticoat in lieu of payment and should have recognised that the petticoat belonged to the workhouse. She appears to have been fined £5, including costs, of which half would go to the workhouse, and in default of immediate payment would serve 2 months in prison at Shepton Mallet.	1833/008
Wills	Elizabeth Lucinda	Wills	Joseph	25	05	1833	Sureties for the peace	Su	Elizabeth Wills claimed that she had been ill-treated by her husband, Joseph, a glazier, for some time. Recently, he had beaten her violently with his fists and then with a mop and had threatened to kill her. She had left home for safety and was now struggling to walk because of her injuries. She requested that her husband be required to put forward sureties with respect to his future conduct towards her. Joseph Wills was ordered to put forward £100 himself and to find two guarantors of £50 each and to keep the peace towards his wife for a period of 6 months.	1833/009

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
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				DD	MM	YYYY				
Welsh	Thomas Inman	Moore	John	27	05	1833	Assault	A	Welsh had gone with his father (presumably William Inman Welsh, a landowner and, later, magistrate) to Moore's house in Tucker Street to settle some business. During the discussion Moore, a carpenter, became abusive and ordered Welsh snr to leave the premises. Welsh jnr tried to intervene by placing himself between Moore and Welsh snr. Moore then supposedly picked up a poker and, according to Welsh jnr, struck him a violent blow in the back as he and his father left the premises. John Gardner jnr, a painter, was a witness and stated that Moore did not strike Welsh jnr, but one of Moore's sons, William, hit Welsh in the face. Moore's sons, Charles and William, both carpenters, were both listed on the summons. John Moore was fined 10/- with costs of 10/-, or, if in default, to serve 2 weeks in prison. Moore defaulted on the payments and accordingly was committed to prison for 14 days. However, according to an official return listing fines and penalties, the fine was paid subsequently.	1833/010
Knight	Henry	Moore	Charles	27	05	1833	Obstructing police officer in the execution of his duty	Op	PC Knight had received a warrant to bring William Moore, a carpenter, before the magistrates. Knight found Moore at work in Horrington (ironically, carrying out work for John Lax jnr whose father, the mayor, had issued the warrant for Moore's arrest). Moore refused to go with Knight to attend court and his brother, Charles, adopted such a threatening and abusive attitude that Knight brought a charge of obstruction against him. See also 1833/010 and 1833/012	1833/011
Welsh	Thomas Inman	Moore	William	28	05	1833	Assault	A	See case 1833/010. Welsh claimed that Moore, a carpenter, had struck him a violent blow in the face without provocation. Moore was fined 30/- with costs of 10/-, or, if in default, to serve 4 weeks in prison. According to the submission to HM Treasury Moore's fine was set at £1. Moore appears not to have paid the sums involved, since he was committed to prison for 4 weeks. However, according to an official return listing fines and penalties, the fine appears to have been paid subsequently.	1833/012

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Jones	John	Saunders	William	17	06	1833	Fraud	Fr	Jones (name not entirely clear) was an inspector of excise. Saunders was a dealer in tobacco. It appears that Saunders was seeking to defraud the authorities with respect to his tobacco stocks. Three charges were brought against him and he pleaded guilty on two counts; he was acquitted on the third charge. He was required to forfeit a certain amount of tobacco and was ordered to pay a fine pf £20.	1833/013
Phelps	William Inman Harford	Webb jnr	John	18	06	1833	Theft of ducks	T	Phelps was a gentleman, resident in New Street. William Norris and John Yandall were both servants in the Phelps household. Both testified that two ducks, one belonging to Phelps and one to Yandall, had been secured in the yard. Both had seen Webb, a labourer, standing by the gates and enquiring about the ducks. The ducks had then gone missing and there was evidence of someone having climbed over the gates. Webb was accused of stealing the ducks and hiding them in the property of Mary Westcott.	1833/014
Andsel	Nathan	Willcox	Mary Ann	24	06	1833	Assault	A	Andsel, a traveller, had been walking along High Street when Willcox came up to him, knocked him down and ran away. A second girl had been with Willcox and offered to fight him before she, too, ran away. Andsel complained that he had damaged his arm when he was knocked over.	1833/015
Jones	Mostyn	Dallimore	George	01	07	1833	Assault	A	Jones, a gentleman from Cheddar, got into an argument with Dallimore in the Angel Inn regarding an apparent non-payment of a bet by Jones at the previous year's Wells races. Jones claimed that Dallimore had grabbed him by the collar and shaken him. John Holman Evans, also a gentleman, witnessed the incident but denied seeing Dallimore grab Jones by the collar.	1833/016

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Nutty	James	Smith	John	03	07	1833	Petty trespass	Pt	Nutty claimed that he had gone into Mrs Butler's house near the top of Portway (presumably a beer house) with a basket of his produce. Smith had apparently come up to him and deliberately struck the basket, breaking 20 eggs and damaging the cakes and gingerbread that were also in there. Nutty assessed the value of the eggs as being 18d. Smith, possibly an inmate of Wells Union, was fined 1/6d with costs of 7/6d, or, if in default, to be imprisoned in Shepton Mallet for 2 calendar months with hard labour. Smith did not pay and was duly committed to prison for 2 calendar months.	1833/017
Foster	George	Edwards	William	15	07	1833	Obstruction	O	Foster, a shoemaker and resident of Grove Lane, claimed that Edwards had parked a cart and left it unattended for some time during which it represented an obstruction to other traffic seeking to use the street. Other testimony came from Hannah Foster, Elizabeth Broadrib, a spinster, and Giles Harris. Edwards was fined 10/- or, if in default, a distress warrant would be exercised.	1833/018
Wadge	Sarah	Wadge	John	24	07	1833	Sureties for the peace	Su	Sarah Wadge claimed that her husband, John, frequently ill-treated her. The previous day he had returned home drunk and beat her daughter and her. He tried to throw her out of the house but with the assistance of a police constable she was able to get back into the house and protect her children overnight. In the morning her husband forced her out of the house. She requested that he be ordered to provide sureties as to his future conduct towards her and the children.	1833/019
Holloway	William Robert	Edghill	Robert	12	08	1833	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Holloway, on behalf of the Overseers of the Poor, complained that Edghill, a house owner, had been assessed as being due to pay £1.7s.0d for the poor rate. Edghill had refused to pay the sum due. Edghill was ordered to pay half of the sum within one week and the remainder within one month.	1833/020

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Holloway	William Robert	White	William	12	08	1833	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Holloway, on behalf of the Overseers of the Poor, complained that White, an owner of both house and land, had been assessed as being due to pay £1.17s.6d for the poor rate. White had refused to pay the sum due. White was ordered to pay the sum owing within 6 weeks, otherwise a distress warrant would be issued to recover the debt.	1833/021
Smith	George	Mayger	William	12	08	1833	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Smith, on behalf of the Overseers of the Poor, complained that Mayger, a house owner, had been assessed as being due to pay the sum of £1.7d.0d for the poor rate. Mayger had refused to pay the sum due. Mayger was ordered to pay the full amount within 4 weeks otherwise a distress warrant would be issued to recover the debt.	1833/022
Hill	David	Watts	James	20	08	1833	Theft of monies & goods	T	David Hill claimed that Watts had stolen from his house around £55 of monies, goods and chattels. Watts was remanded in custody until the next General Quarter Sessions.	1833/022a
Jervis	John	Jervis	Edward	21	08	1833	Sureties for the peace	Su	John Jervis was a grocer and linen draper. One of his sons, Edward, had been a problem for some time. At one point he left home and went to sea as a common sailor. On his return his father tried to interest him in the business but he proved to be unreliable and not entirely honest. He also became very sullen and refused to eat with the rest of the family. One evening he attempted to take a carving knife in secret up to the room which he shared with two brothers. The family feared that he would do something violent and had him arrested by PC Brooks. It was also discovered that Edward seemed to be at least partly addicted to draughts of laudanum. Edward Jervis was required to put forward sureties to the value of £20 and obtain 2 guarantors of £10 and undertake to keep the peace for 6 months.	1833/023

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Porter	Mary	Gibbons	William	26	08	1833	Drunkenness	D	Mary Porter was the wife of William Porter, a pauper residing in Wells Union workhouse. She claimed that Gibbons, also a resident of the workhouse, had come into her room, together with his son, and started beating other residents with a large stick. He was clearly drunk. She called a constable and PC Russell took Gibbons into custody. Gibbons was convicted and sent to prison in Shepton Mallet for 21 days with hard labour.	1833/023a
[Justices]		[Various]		27	08	1833	Fines & penalties	*	There are two documents which give lists of fines and penalties covering the period November 1830 to August 1833. These documents were compiled at the request of HM Treasury - and Wells was clearly in arrears in preparing its submissions which were required quarterly. The fines represented monies to be paid to the Treasurer of the County of Somerset. There are a number of instances where the amount shown as a fine is lower than that given in the case documentation for the corresponding petty sessions case. In the main, fines are shown only for offences against liquor licences and for offences such as assault, wilful trespass and, occasionally, larceny. There are entries in these documents for which there are no corresponding petty sessions cases: specifically 3 offences against opening hours regulations by David Hill in 1830 (twice) and 1831, and one offence by John Clements in 1832. Also, offences for assault by John Baker, John Spencer and Edwin Bird, wilful trespass by Thomas Hartry and larceny by William and John Andrews. Similarly there are petty sessions cases for which fines were imposed that are not shown in these documents.	1833/023b
Smith	George	Bonnet	Joseph	02	09	1833	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Smith, on behalf of the Overseers of the Poor, complained that Bonnet, a shoemaker, was capable of supporting his wife and family by work, but had refused to do so. As a result they had become chargeable to the parish. Bonnet was convicted as an idle and disorderly person and sent to prison in Shepton Mallet for one calendar month with hard labour.	1833/024

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Phipps	Mary Ann	Badman	William	09	09	1833	Assault	A	Mary Ann Phipps complained that she had been at home in Tucker Street and had attempted to close a door to prevent smoke getting into the house when Badman, a plasterer, forced open the door and kicked her several times on the legs. Her testimony was supported by Sarah Chamberlain, wife of William Chamberlain. Badman was fined 2/6d with costs of 5/- to be paid immediately, of, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison. According to an official return listing fines and penalties Badman paid the fine imposed on him.	1833/025
Clements	Caroline	Clements	Frances	17	09	1833	Drunkenness	D	Caroline Clements was the matron of Wells Union workhouse. Frances Clements was an inmate of the workhouse and wife of James Clements. Frances Clements was accused of being drunk, beating on the doors and disturbing the residents. She was convicted and sentenced to 14 days in prison.	1833/026
Anstie	Benjamin	Knight	Joseph	20	09	1833	Theft of clothing	T	Benjamin Anstie complained that Knight had stolen from him a variety of clothing, including coat, waistcoat, trousers, shirts, dressing gowns, chemises, cravats, night caps etc. Knight was remanded in custody until the next General Quarter Sessions.	1833/026a
Lovell	James	Keates	William	23	09	1833	Assault	A	Lovell claimed that Keates had come to his house in a tipsy condition, stood at the window and called for him to come out. Lovell had done so and asked if Keates was going to pay him the money that he owed. At this point, according to Lovell, Keates struck him in the face. However, according to John Fry, labourer, Lovell had first grabbed Keates by the collar and when he, Fry, had gone to assist Keates, Lovell had then struck him. Other witness statements from Levi Gard and Eliza Pidgeley seemed largely to support Lovell's version.	1833/027
Jervis	Henry	Moore jnr	John	14	10	1833	Assault	A	Henry Jervis, son of John Jervis, was walking along Priston Row when he was assaulted by a stranger who knocked the candle from his hand. Jervis chased after his assailant and was knocked down before finally capturing him. The individual supposedly pretended to be drunk and said that his name was Batt from Wookey. However, Jervis claimed to recognise him as John Moore the younger.	1833/028

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Heale	George	Bacon	George	14	10	1833	Assault	A	Heale, a woolcomber, claimed that Bacon came into his shop and was very abusive. He asked Bacon to leave and claimed to have put a hand on his shoulder in a friendly manner. At that point Bacon had assaulted him and knocked him to the floor. The incident was settled without a hearing.	1833/029
Hillbourn	Thomas	Lawrence	William	14	10	1833	Assault	A	Hillbourn, a labourer, claimed that he was in David Hill's house (presumably a beer house) when Lawrence came in and began pushing his stick into Hillbourn's face. He also attempted to throw a piece of bread at Hillbourn but was prevented from doing so by the landlady. Hillbourn claimed that Lawrence had assaulted him on a number of previous occasions, Lawrence was fined 2/6d with costs of 5/- to be paid within a fortnight or, if in default, to serve one calendar month in prison. Note: According to an official return listing fines and penalties Lawrence paid the fine imposed on him. However, there is some doubt about this, since a commitment document was raised to send Lawrence to prison for this offence. This document was then used to commit William White to prison for a separate offence - but only some of the references to Lawrence have been struck through - see case 1833/037a.	1833/030
Holloway	William Robert	Holloway	Joseph	16	10	1833	Absentee apprentice	Ab	William Robert Holloway was a tailor and Joseph Holloway was indentured to him as an apprentice. Joseph had apparently not turned up for work and came home during the course of the evening. He was drunk and stood outside in the Market Place abusing his master. When he went inside, William Holloway tried to get him to bed but they got into a struggle in which the apprentice pushed a chair into his master's face. The incident was settled without a hearing.	1833/031

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Sellick	John	Moyston Maundrell Seal	John Thomas Francis	26	10	1833	Wilful damage	Wd	<p>Sellick's property appeared to lie on the corner of Priston Row and Chamberlain Street. Witnesses saw the defendants making a great noise outside and also saw them damage the door lock and break windows by throwing stones. The damage was estimated to be at least 8/- . Fines of 10/- with costs of 10/- were levied (not clear if these amounts were per defendant or in total), or, if in default to serve 2 calendar months in prison with hard labour. Witnesses included John Clark, a neighbour from Priston Row, Samuel Sanford, a serjeant in the Grenadier Guards who was renting a room from Sellick while recruiting in Wells, William Harris, a clerk to Henry Brooks (an attorney) and Henry Knight, a carpenter. Moyston was committed to prison for 2 calendar months and this document was subsequently amended to include Francis Seal who appeared to suffer the same punishment.</p> <p>A further commitment document was prepared in the name of John Moyston, but Moyston's name was then deleted and replaced by that of Thomas Maundrell, also sentenced to 2 calendar months in prison with hard labour.</p>	1833/032
Sims	Sarah	Snowdon	Richard	26	10	1833	Assault	A	<p>Sarah Sims was the wife of Samuel Sims, confectioner. She had been out selling their produce around the local hostelrys and was outside The Three Kings at around 10.45pm. At the door where there was a crowd of people she was accosted by Snowdon who asked her what she wanted; nothing of him was her response. He then used his fists to push her to the ground and proceeded to beat her until she was rescued. The case was settled without a hearing.</p>	1833/033
Knight	Henry	Clements Willcox	Charlotte Mary Anne	26	10	1833	Vagrancy	V	<p>PC Knight had apprehended a prisoner and was taking him into custody when he encountered Clements and Willcox, described as notorious common prostitutes. They were said to have behaved in a riotous manner as they tried to rescue the prisoner. Clements and Willcox were both sentenced to spend 1 calendar month in prison with hard labour. It was noted that Clements had previously served a similar sentence.</p>	1833/034

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Thorley Lawford	George Samuel	Isgar Palmer	Thomas John Williams	26	10	1833	Assault	A	PC Thorley and Serjeant Lawford were walking down High Street late at night when Isgar and Palmer crossed the street and began to attack them with sticks. The police officers resisted and were able to capture the defendants. Each was convicted and fined 15/- with costs of 10/- to be paid immediately, or, if in default, to serve 2 calendar months in prison at Shepton Mallet. Both defendants were subsequently committed to prison to serve the specified sentence.	1833/035
Clark	John	Isgar	Thomas	26	10	1833	Assault	A	Clark claimed that he had been walking down High Street between 11.00pm and midnight when Isgar struck him with a stick and knocked him down. Clark had then panicked and run away. Isgar was convicted and fined 5/- with costs of 10/- to be paid immediately, or, if in default, to serve 1 calendar month in prison at Shepton Mallet, the sentence to commence on the expiry of Isgar's conviction in the case involving Serjeant Lawford (see 1833/035).	1833/036
Collier	Martha	Collier	Moses	28	10	1833	Sureties for the peace	Su	Martha Collier complained that her husband, Moses, had thrown a jug of water over her and assaulted and beaten her. He had also threatened the children. She requested that Moses Collier be required to put forward sureties with respect to his future conduct towards her and the children. Collier was required to put forward £20 and keep the peace for a period of 12 months. Costs of the case were 5/6d.	1833/037
Hamilton	William	White	William	30	10	1833	Assault	A	William Hamilton claimed to have been assaulted and beaten by White in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert. White was fined 2/6d with costs of 10/-. As White apparently failed to pay the sums involved, he was committed to prison at Shepton Mallet for one month.	1833/037a
[Justices]		Porter	William	11	11	1833	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Porter, a shoemaker, was charged with deserting his wife and 5 children who, as a result, had become chargeable to the parish for the last two months. Porter was sentenced to one calendar month in prison with hard labour.	1933/037b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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[Justices]		Chapman	James	11	11	1833	Theft	T	The case documentation consists of a small piece of paper referring to James Chapman and listing the following: one piece of Irish cloth, three gown pieces, one shirt and one pair of drawers. There is also a reference to '21 yards' and '3/6 each'. No further information is provided. It is possible that these are items that Chapman was charged with stealing, but there are no facts to support this hypothesis.	1833/037c
[Rex]		Hamlin Jones	Thomas William	03	12	1833	Theft of brass fittings	T	Hamlin and Jones were arrested on suspicion of stealing brass fittings and selling them to a trader in Wells. Jones claimed that he was a travelling singer, originally from Kidderminster in Worcestershire, earning his living by writing and singing songs; he was about 15/16 years old. He claimed to have found a bag containing brass fittings close to the road near Chew Stoke as he was walking from Bristol to Wells. He met Hamlin for the first time at his lodgings in Charles Lane's house in East Wells. Hamlin, who was about 25 years old, claimed to have trained as a tailor and was now servant to a travelling gentleman based in Brighton. He had supposedly come to Wells from Sherborne. He found a contact at the Joiners Arms by the name of Melmouth who would be prepared to buy the brass fittings. Melmouth gave Jones 5/- against an asking price of 15/- and gave Hamlin 1/- for his role as an intermediary. There is no indication of the outcome of the case.	1833/038

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Symes Brown	James Thomas	Priest	John	03	12	1833	Assault on police officer	A	PC Symes was on night duty with PC Brown. They saw that lights were still on in The Mermaid Inn in Tucker Street and went to investigate. Richard Boyce, the landlord, welcomed their arrival because he could not persuade Priest to leave. Priest was eventually persuaded to go but then stopped just short of the Queen Adelaide beerhouse further down Tucker Street. Here he attacked Brown and then Symes, knocking the latter down and dislocating his shoulder. Symes was taken back to The Mermaid in great pain and, soon after, Priest re-appeared and attacked the defenceless Symes before turning his attention again to Brown. Priest was convicted of assault and fined £3 for the assault on Symes with the alternative of 2 months in prison, plus £2 for the assault on Brown with the alternative of a further month in prison.	1833/039
Parsons	Joseph	Knight	George	09	12	1833	Absentee apprentice	Ab	Parsons, a brushmaker, claimed that Knight, an apprentice, had been absent from work without permission and had been found in the King's Head Inn. Knight's conduct over recent weeks had been extremely poor and he was doing little or no work. Knight was convicted and sent to prison for one month with hard labour.	1833/040
Everdell	James	Gould Gould	Abraham Sarah	09	12	1833	Fraudulent removal of goods to prevent distraint	Rg	Everdell, a bailiff acting on behalf of William Tucker, a gentleman, claimed that Gould and his wife had secretly removed possessions belonging to them from locations where they might be subject to distraint in order to recover arrears of rent.	1833/041
Holloway	William Robert	Ivey	John	12	12	1833	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Holloway, on behalf of the Overseers of the Poor, complained that Ivey, a weaver, was capable of supporting his wife and family by work, but had refused to do so. As a result his wife and 3 children had become chargeable to the parish. There was no information on the outcome of the case.	1833/042

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Smith	Samuel	Harris	Eleanor	24	12	1833	Assault	A	Samuel Smith and his wife appear to have been engaged in a dispute with Miss Harris. There were evidently rumours about who had said what about whom. The matter appears to have come to a head in George Heale's shop. Harris apparently struck Smith, although he may have struck her first. Harris was convicted of assault and fined 20/-, including costs of 12/6d or, if in default, to serve 1 calendar month in prison at Shepton Mallet.	1833/043
1834										
Haine	John	Marsh	James	07	01	1834	Cruelty to animals	C	At Wells Fair Marsh, a labourer from Glastonbury, wanted to place his cattle where Haine had already positioned his. Marsh had attacked Haine's livestock, beating a cow and an ox about the head and damaging their eyes. John Whitehead the younger and William Chivers the younger, both of Glastonbury, witnessed the incident and gave evidence of Haine's behalf. Thomas Bath and his servant, George Hale, had also witnessed the beating of the cattle. Marsh claimed that he had merely been seeking to move the cattle because they had occupied his ground. Marsh was convicted and fined 10/- with costs of £1, all to be paid immediately, or to serve 3 weeks in prison with hard labour. According to an official return listing fines and penalties Marsh paid the fine imposed on him.	1834/001
Surveyor of Highways		Various		19	02	1834	Non-payment of highway rates	N	List of 32 defaulters in Southover who had not paid their assessed highway rates.	1834/002
Surveyor of Highways		Various		05	03	1834	Non-payment of highway rates	N	List of 25 defaulters in Southover who had not paid their assessed highway rates.	1834/003

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Derham	John	Cox	Joseph	18	03	1834	Absconding apprentice	Ab	John Derham had taken on Joseph Cox as an apprentice; no money had been paid for him to do so. Cox had proved to be an unsatisfactory apprentice and in June 1833 he had absconded and never returned. The magistrates agreed that, in view of Cox's failure to return, the apprenticeship to Derham should be terminated. Note: the document appears to refer to George Knight's apprenticeship to Joseph Parsons, but within it the references indicate Cox's apprenticeship to Derham.	1834/003a
Holloway	William Robert	Tucker	John	19	03	1834	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Robert Holloway, one of the Overseers of the Poor, brought a complaint against Tucker, the occupier of a store in High Street, who had refused to pay the last 3 poor rate assessments. Although Tucker appeared in response to the summons, he still refused to pay the outstanding assessments for October 1832, April 1833 and October 1833. The amount shown as outstanding was £1.15s.8d.	1834/004
Holloway	William Robert	Western	James	19	03	1834	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Robert Holloway, one of the Overseers of the Poor, brought a complaint against Western, a shoemaker, who had refused to pay the poor rate assessment on houses in in Sadler Street, High Street and Grove Lane. He eventually paid £2.8s.3d.	1834/005
Holloway	William Robert	White	William	19	03	1834	Non-payment of poor rate	N	William Robert Holloway, one of the Overseers of the Poor, brought a complaint against White of Southover for refusing to pay the poor rate assessment of £4.19s.9d on houses and land that he owned or occupied in Southover and Portway. White eventually paid the sum owing.	1834/006
Hardwick	Elizabeth	Randall	John	24	05	1834	Assault	A	Hardwick, a single woman, claimed that she had been assaulted by Randall in Grove Lane with Randall striking her several times on the face and body. She stated that she had offered no provocation for the assault. The parties reached a compromise before the hearing.	1834/007
Hewlett	William	Westcott	Levi	28	05	1834	Assault	A	Hewlett, aged 70, was struck a violent blow on the head in the Market Place by Westcott. Convicted and ordered to pay £2.10s.0d immediately.	1834/008

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Sims	James	Hewlett York Tilly Westcott	Joel John William Levi	28	05	1834	Committing a breach of the peace	Dp	Sims, the night constable, reported a great tumult in the High Street on a Saturday evening with the 4 defendants, all labourers, fighting. Sims and William Hawkins, another constable, ordered them to disperse but they refused and the disturbance continued for some time. All four defendants were required to put forward sureties of £20 each to be of good conduct for the next 6 months.	1834/009
Edghill	Robert	Tilly	William	30	05	1834	Assault	A	PC Edghill found Joseph Isgrove, William Tilly and 2 others quarrelling in the High Street at 1.00hrs. Edghill warned Tilly that he had just been bound over to keep the peace (see 1834/009). Tilly became abusive, grabbed Edghill by the collar and shook him. Edghill took Tilly into custody with assistance from PCs Benjamin Gardner and James Sims.	1834/010
Lord	George	Phelps	William	10	07	1834	Non-payment of contracted wages	N	Lord claimed that he had been discharged from Phelps' service without notice when their agreement had been one months' notice or one month's wages, i.e. £3. Charles Clark, a coachmaker of Shepton Mallet, testified that Lord had brought Phelps' carriage to his yard, behaved in a drunken manner, abused Mr West, an attorney, and treated the horses so badly that Clark took them away and called a constable. PC Williams reported that Lord had driven down High Street in Shepton at a gallop. Lord was made an offer of 1 guinea to be let go and said that he was sorry.	1834/011
Holloway	William Robert	Francis	Samuel	18	07	1834	Fraudulent removal of goods to avoid distraint	Rg	Holloway, a tailor, was owed rent by Francis, a butcher. He apparently intended to seize goods and chattels owned by Francis and sell them in order to recover the arrears of rent. However, Francis fraudulently removed the goods so that Holloway could not get them. Harriet, wife of John Sims, was called upon to give evidence.	1834/012
Toogood	William	Thyer	Robert	23	07	1834	Assault	A	Toogood had lent Thyer, a labourer, 2/- which the latter then refused to pay back. When Toogood asked for the money to be returned, Thyer kicked him several times; the incident took place in Sadler Street. Thyer was fined 2/6d with costs of 7/6d and in default of payment was sentenced to a week's imprisonment. According to an official return listing fines and penalties Thyer paid the fine imposed on him.	1834/013

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Boulting	James	Jenkins	Thomas	23	07	1834	Wilful damage	Wd	Boulting claimed that Jenkins had deliberately broken a pane of glass in one of his windows by throwing a hat against it. Jenkins was fined 2/9d with costs of 8/6d, the sum to be paid immediately, with the alternative being imprisonment for 2 months with hard labour. According to an official return listing fines and penalties Jenkins paid the fine imposed on him.	1834/014
Hopkins	Elizabeth	Gould	Abraham	06	08	1834	Fraud	Fr	Elizabeth Hopkins was trying to get a rosewood writing desk repaired on behalf of her husband who had fallen ill about 6 months previously. The repair was supposedly being carried out by Gould, described as a labourer, but it appears that Gould had handed over the desk as security for a payment of 2/- per week rent owing to William Tucker. Witnesses called were John Davis, shopman to Peter Hopkins, who was present when the desk was handed over to Gould, and James Wendall who claimed that Gould handed over the desk as security for the rental payments.	1834/015
Haggett	John	Adams Cottle	William William	20	08	1834	Assault	A	Haggett claimed to have been struck on the arm with a whip by Adams, before Adams passed the whip to Cottle. The incident occurred in the Market Place and was witnessed by Mr & Mrs William Seaford. Adams and Cottle were fined 3/-, payable immediately or to serve 2 months imprisonment in Shepton Mallet. As Adams and Cottle failed to pay a fine said to be £3 and costs of 7/- they were committed to prison for 2 months.	1834/016
Collins	Richard	Moore	John	22	08	1834	Theft of window frames and doors	T	Collins accused Moore, a carpenter, of stealing window frames, lights and doors from his residence which had lately been repossessed by the sheriff. Collins further claimed that the stolen objects were to be found on the premises of Thomas Lovell, tailor, and Mary Bishop, widow. Subsequently, Joseph Bowell found 4 doors in Mary Bishop's garden and 2 shutters were found in an outhouse on Thomas Lovell's premises (the outhouse apparently being in the possession of James Valentine Gardiner}. Moore admitted the thefts.	1834/017

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
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Armstrong	Sarah	Edwards	William	08	09	1834	Assault	A	Armstrong claimed that Edwards, a labourer, owed her some money and when she asked for it to be repaid, he struck her a violent blow on the head. The incident was witnessed by Joseph Isgrove. The defendant was discharged.	1834/018
Gould	Mary	York	John	08	09	1834	Assault	A	Mary Gould had gone to Joseph Emery's beerhouse to collect her husband (John?) who was drunk. When she went in, York assaulted her by grabbing her by the throat. York was fined 4/- with costs of 7/6d, to be paid immediately or to serve 2 months in prison in Shepton Mallet.	1834/019
White	Robert	Moore	John	08	09	1834	Assault	A	Robert White was the son of William White, a resident of St Cuthbert Street and a butcher in Wells. White had been standing in the middle of the road in St Cuthbert Street when Moore first pushed him and then struck him a blow under the ear with his open hand. White was then rescued by his mother who came out and took him into the house. Moore was fined 5/- for the offence. According to an official return listing fines and penalties Moore paid the fine imposed on him.	1834/020
Berry	James	Wills	James	08	09	1834	Assault	A	Berry, a labourer, went to Wills' house with respect to the purchase of a horse. There was a difference of opinion and then Wills supposedly kicked Berry in the groin. Wills was found guilty and fined 10/- with costs of 10/-, or one month in prison if in default. According to an official return listing fines and penalties Wills paid the fine imposed on him.	1834/021
Short	Frances	Crandon	William	08	09	1834	Assault	A	Frances Short was in the Market Place looking to purchase some earthenware when she complained that she was attacked from behind with a stick. She claimed that she was so hurt in her private parts that she could not sit without pain for two days.	1834/022a
[Justices]		[Various]		08	09	1834	Beerhouse opening hours	*	Notification from the justices of opening hours of beerhouses in line with an Act of Parliament.	1834/022b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Buck	Abraham	Emery	Joseph	08	09	1834	Beer Act	L	PC Buck reported that Emery, a beerhouse keeper, had permitted John Gould to become drunk on his premises. William Hunt, one of Gould's drinking companions claimed that Gould had not been drunk. Ann Emery, the daughter-in-law of Joseph Emery, admitted that Gould had been in their house from around 1.00pm to 9.30pm, but stated that he had not been drunk. However, Gould's wife, Mary, had come to the inn on several occasions to try and get him to go home and, in her view, Gould had become drunk while on the premises. She also stated that when he eventually came home he was too drunk to get upstairs without assistance. Emery was not convicted of allowing Gould to become drunk on his premises.	1834/022c
Buck	Abraham	Gould	John	08	09	1834	Drunkenness	D	PC Buck charged Gould with drunkenness. Gould's wife, Mary, claimed that when she first went to find him in the beerhouse he was dancing (with a Swiss girl!) but not drunk and quarrelsome. When she went to the beerhouse a second time, he was drunk and she poured his beer over him. Later he was so drunk that he was unable to take himself to bed. Gould called two witnesses, Hunt and Ann Emery, Emery's daughter-in-law, both of whom asserted that Gould was not drunk.	1834/022d
Surveyor of Highways		[Various]		17	09	1834	Non payment of highway rate assessment	N	List of individuals who had not paid the rate assessments from 1830, 1831 and 1832 covering amending, repairing and supporting the highways. There are approximately 50 names on the list, some of whom are shown as having then paid the amounts outstanding. In some other cases distress actions were initiated to seize and sell the goods and chattels of the debtor in order to realise the sum required to discharge the debt. The largest debtor, by some margin, was Charles Fry who was said to owe £12.10s.7d.	1834/023

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Hardisty	William	Fowles	William Henry	17	09	1834	Assault	A	Hardisty, a druggist, claimed that, after a vestry meeting, Fowles, a schoolmaster, assaulted him in an attempt to seize the parish account books. Fowles had been given sight of the account books as part of the meeting, but when the meeting ended he demanded to have further sight of the books and was refused by Hardisty. Fowles then attempted to seize the account books by force and a struggle with Hardisty ensued. Testimony was provided by other members of the committee, including: Richard Sheppard; Matthew Oxley, described as a gardener; Joseph Dix; Thomas Young, described as a broker; William Baker, grocer; John Payne; and Cornelius Bartlett jnr. Fowles was fined £1. The costs of the case amounted to £1.4s.6d, but it is not clear if this sum included the fine. According to an official return listing fines and penalties Fowles paid the fine imposed on him.	1834/024
Bath	John	Andrews	Henry	22	09	1834	Theft of a wine glass	T	Mary Ann Freeman was the daughter of Alice Bath, late Alice Freeman, widow and now wife of John Bath, the licensee of the White Hart Inn. While in the kitchen of the inn, she saw Andrews put one of the rummer glasses in his pocket. Andrews denied the accusation but in his pocket was a long beer glass and a rummer glass.	1834/025
Bartlett jnr	Cornelius	Surbutt	James	23	09	1834	Assault	A	Bartlett, an innholder, claimed that he was at his door in Southover when he was assaulted by Surbutt in an unprovoked attack and struck several times by his fists. Bartlett's account was confirmed by his ostler, George Cook, who had been at the door with him when Surbutt came along. Testimony from Charles Taylor, a butcher, indicated that Surbutt had been nursing a grievance against Bartlett and had been threatening to burn his premises down. Surbutt was bound over in the sum of £20 from himself and £10 each from Henry Hope and Charles Binning to keep the peace for 6 months.	1834/026

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Pearce	James	Duckett	Elizabeth	25	09	1834	Petty trespass	Pt	Elizabeth Weaver, a widow, stated that Elizabeth Duckett, wife of Thomas Duckett, had come to the door of James Pearce's shop in High Street and deliberately broke a pane of glass. Thomas Duckett came to take her away, but she returned immediately and broke another pane of the window and two beer glasses inside the shop. The cost of the damage was estimated at 7/- . Elizabeth Duckett was fined 7/- with costs of 10/-, to be paid immediately, or, if in default, to serve one month in prison with hard labour at Shepton Mallet.	1834/027
Goodenough Davies	Rev Edmund Maurice	Maher Mullins	Matthew James	26	09	1834	Theft and petty trespass	T	James Ponfield was a servant to the Rev. Edmund Goodenough, who had a farmyard in Munday Meadow in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. One morning he found that the wicket gates to the stable had been damaged or removed, the gate to the pig sty had been demolished and four ducks were missing. He found the ducks had been killed and some of the gates had been thrown in the pond. There was also evidence that some grapes had been stolen from the neighbouring garden belonging to Maurice Davies. Ponfield found two pairs of distinctive footprints and with the assistance of PC Benjamin Brooks was able to match them to the boots worn by Maher and Mullins, both described as labourers. The defendants admitted being in the area but denied entering the farmyard or the neighbouring garden; there were distinct inconsistencies in their stories. Other testimony was provided by George Westcott; Henry Nicholls, a gardener working for Maurice Davies; William Lacy, labourer. Maher and Mullins were found guilty and required to pay £1 each, plus 5/6d each for the injury deemed to be caused and a further 7/- each for costs. It appears that they were unable or unwilling to pay the sums involved since they were committed to prison for 2 calendar months.	1834/028
[Justices]		[Various]		30	09	1834	Fines & penalties	*	List of fines and penalties from 27 August 1833 to 30 September 1834 inclusive. The fines were amounts to be paid to the Treasurer of the County of Somerset. All the cases listed have individual case records in the petty sessions documentation.	1834/028a

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Bisgrove	George	Loston	Daniel	29	10	1834	Non-payment of wages	N	Bisgrove had worked for Loxton as a journeyman tailor at the rate of 2/3d per hour. When he ceased working for Loxton he claimed that he had been underpaid to the extent of 17/- and submitted a detailed claim setting out his working hours and the payments received from Loxton. Loxton was ordered to pay the outstanding amount within 21 days.	1834/029
Snow	William Henry	Powell Webb	John Thomas Benjamin	27	11	1834	Fraud - evasion of excise duty	Fr	Snow was an excise officer. He charged Powell, a spirits dealer, and Webb, a tobacco dealer, with attempting to defraud the government by avoiding excise duty. Powell was found to have in stock 2 gallons and 2 quarts of 'British compounds' which were not represented in the books of account. Webb was found to have 21lbs of tobacco which had been delivered to him without the requisite permit. Both defendants admitted their offence and forfeited the goods involved.	1834/030
Woollacott	Fanny	Morgan	Ann	01	12	1834	Theft of tea	T	Fanny Woollacott, wife of Joseph Woollacott, accused Ann Morgan, wife of Thomas Morgan, of stealing a tea shovel (caddy spoon?) and a quantity of tea. Her allegation was supported by Hannah Nutty and by the confession of Morgan herself. Morgan was remanded in custody until the next General Quarter Sessions.	1834/030a
Hood	William	Dudderidge	James	02	12	1834	Assault	A	Hood, the licensee of the Red Lion, complained that Dudderidge had been extremely disorderly and had used foul and abusive language towards him and his wife. Hood had sent for a constable to evict Dudderidge who had refused to leave the premises and with the help of some others they had got him outside where Dudderidge attempted to strike Hood. Dudderidge was eventually taken into custody by the police.	1834/031

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Parsons	Joseph	Syms	Josiah	03	12	1834	Non-completion of contract	Nc	Parsons, a patten and clog manufacturer, had taken on Syms as a workman in October 1834 and agreed a contract with him through to Christmas 1835. Syms had decided that he could and would not work with another workman, Joseph Hill, in the same workshop. He destroyed Hill's workbench and threw it out in the yard. He informed Parsons that he would not work with Hill and left his employment without Parsons' consent. Parsons was therefore pursuing him for failure to complete his agreed contractual obligations. Syms was judged to be guilty and was committed to prison for one calendar month.	1834/032

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
1835										
Veale	Elizabeth	Moore jnr	John	16	01	1835	Wilful damage	Wd	Elizabeth Veale was the wife of William Veale of Tucker Street. She complained that Moore had come to her house late at night asking for his wife. Elizabeth Veale explained to him that his wife was not there. Moore went away and returned soon after to break 5 panes of glass in the bedroom window (approximate value 5/-) by throwing stones at it; one of the stones landed on the pillow of the bed in which Veale's son was sleeping. Moore was required to put forward a surety of £20 of his own money and was bound over to keep the peace for 6 months. Moore may not have paid the compensation for the damage to the windows and a commitment notice was prepared for him to be sent to prison in Shepton Mallet. However, this notice is not completed in full and all of the vital variable information is missing, e.g. amount of compensation that should have been paid, length of his term in prison, date on which the term should commence, date of notice etc.	1835/001
Plowman	John Belfour	Crandon Hutton jnr	William James	07	02	1835	Petty trespass	Pt	Charles Mullins, a cooper, provided a witness statement of an example of petty trespass perpetrated by Crandon and Hutton, who had broken a trestle intended for use in Wells market and thrown a leg from it through the window of Mr Plowman. The damage caused was estimated at 11/6d and the two men were also required to pay the costs of the case. Payment was to be immediate with the alternative being 1 month's imprisonment with hard labour.	1835/002
Biss	Elizabeth	Biss Syms Eyres	Richard Harriet Mary	28	02	1835	Assault	A	Elizabeth Biss, wife of Richard Biss, complained that the defendants had assaulted her and had also committed a breach of the peace. Both Elizabeth and Richard Biss were bound over in the sum of £10 each to keep the peace for 6 months. John Syms was required to put forward a £10 surety on behalf of his wife, Harriet, again to keep the peace for 6 months, as was Richard Eyres for his wife, Mary. Richard Eyres and Richard Biss also seem to have been required to pay costs of 7/6d.	1835/003

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Stokes	George	Knight	George	09	03	1835	Vagrancy	V	Thomas Humphries was in the stable of the George Inn where he was employed as an ostler. He saw Knight come down the yard towards George Stokes' shop and climb over the gates into the yard. Knight claimed that he had only come to collect a razor that he had left there, but was eventually chased out and through neighbouring properties before being taken into custody. Knight was convicted as a 'rogue and vagabond' and sentenced to 6 weeks hard labour in prison at Shepton Mallet.	1835/004
Bisgrove	Henry	Jenkins	Thomas	19	03	1835	Petty trespass	Pt	Frances Bisgrove issued a complaint on behalf of her husband, Henry, that Jenkins, a cordwainer, had broken 4 panes of glass in their house by kicking them with his foot. The case appears to have been settled without a hearing.	1834/005
Buck	Abraham	Hill	David	10	04	1835	Offence against licence	L	PC Buck charged Hill, who ran a beerhouse, with serving alcohol outside permitted licensing hours, i.e. at 9.10pm on Sunday 29 March. Hill was also accused of allowing customers, for example, William Percy, to become drunk on his premises. Hill pleaded not guilty, but was convicted and fined £3.	1835/006a
Brooks	Benjamin	Hill	David	10	04	1835	Offence against licence	L	PC Brooks accused Hill of serving alcohol outside permitted licensing hours. The charge was that Hill opened his premises for the sale of alcohol outside permitted licensing hours, i.e. at 11.00am rather than 1.00pm, on Sunday 22 March.	1835/006b
Isgrove	Katherine	Isgrove	Joseph	27	04	1835	Assault	A	Katherine Isgrove, wife of Jacob, had an argument with her son, Joseph, at the dinner table. He struck her a fierce back-handed blow which knocked her from her chair and necessitated the attention of a doctor. Joseph Isgrove was fined £5 or to be sent to prison for 2 months.	1835/006c
Barnard	James	Barnett	James	04	05	1835	Cruelty to animals	C	Jonathan Slater, a servant to James Barnard, stated that he had been working in Mr Barnard's garden in Tucker Street when he heard agitated noises from the ducks at the bottom of the garden. On investigating, he found Barnett hitting one of the ducks with a stick while William Hurd and Jesse Williams watched. All three ran away when Slater approached.	1835/007

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Derham	John	Cox	Joseph	07	05	1835	Left apprenticeship without consent	Ab	Derham, described as a plaisterer, claimed that his apprentice, Cox, had absconded and left his work without his master's consent. An arrest warrant was issued for the apprehension of Cox.	1835/008
Hardisty	William	Wills	Thomas	09	05	1835	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Hardisty, one of the Overseers of the Poor, had complained that Wills had failed to pay any of a number of Poor Rate Assessments and owed £4. Wills had appeared before the magistrates and refused to pay. He was therefore committed to prison - in Ilchester - until such time as he paid the amounts owing which dated back to 1833.	1835/008a
Priest	Henry	Priest	John	09	05	1835	Assault	A	Henry Priest, a labourer, accused his brother, John, of assaulting their mother at their house in Tucker Street. He also claimed that John struck him before he was taken away by PC Barnard. John Priest was found guilty and was fined 20/- or to spend 1 month in prison.	1835/009
Salter	Rev. Henry	Phillis Jones	John John	11	05	1835	Theft of a spade	T	Phillis and Jones were committed to prison until the next General Quarter Sessions accused of the theft of a spade from Rev. Henry Salter. Evidence against the defendants appears to have been provided by Joseph Bassett and Matthew Davy. The defendants are also said to have offered voluntary confessions. The only document in this case is the record committing the two defendants to prison.	1835/009a
Hardwick	John	Cottle	William	01	06	1835	Petty trespass	Pt	Thomas Wood, a young boy, was carrying a basket containing some earthenware to the home of John Hardwick when Cottle struck the contents of the basket with a stick. Hardwick claimed that one cup had been broken and three were cracked by Cottle's blow. Cottle was fined 1/- with costs of 10/- or to spend one month in prison with hard labour.	1835/010

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Densham	John	Tilly Slater Phillis Bennett	Henry William John John	01	06	1835	Petty trespass	Pt	Densham, a yeoman of Wookey Hole Lane, claimed that the four defendants, all described as labourers, had deliberately cut down his hedges and the stakes on his fences and thrown them onto the adjoining land occupied by Mr Garrod. Tilly and Phillis were fined 10/- each with costs of 10/- and damages of 5/- (if in default to serve 1 month in prison), while Slater and Bennett were fined 1/- each with costs of 7/6d each. Tilly appears to have defaulted on the payment of the fine and costs since there is a document which commits him to prison at Shepton Mallet for one calendar month.	1835/011
Wills	Thomas	Clark	James	11	06	1835	Petty trespass	Pt	Wills was the owner of several tenements in Southover. He complained that Clark had smashed in the front door to the tenements and the inner door to one of the tenements; the damage was done with a sledge hammer. Testimony from Charlotte Trickey, wife of William Trickey and resident in Southover, and Charlotte Cox, the occupant of one of Wills' tenements, confirmed that Clark had done the damage and used a sledge hammer. George Bartlett, gentleman, estimated the damage at 10/-. Clark was convicted and fined 10/- with costs of 7/6d or one calendar month in gaol with hard labour.	1835/012
Ferris	Joseph	Johns	George	13	07	1835	Assault	A	Ferris, a labourer, complained that Johns had challenged him to a fight and, when he refused, had struck him a violent blow to his side. Johns was fined 2/6d with costs of 7/6d or to serve one calendar month in prison.	1835/013
Buck	Abraham	Hill	David	25	07	1835	Offence against licence	L	PC Buck charged Hill with serving alcohol on a Sunday after the permitted closing time of 9.00pm. Hill submitted a plea of guilty and afterwards withdrew it. It was his second offence and he was fined £6.	1835/014a
Brooks	Benjamin	Hill	David	26	07	1835	Offence against licence	L	Brooks accused Hill of serving alcohol outside the permitted licensing hours. The date and time of the offence are the same as in case 1835/014a.	1835/014b

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Sheppard	William	Taylor Woodward	William William	27	07	1835	Assault	A	Sheppard, a farmer from Wookey, accused the two defendants of a brutal assault upon him in Portway where he was beaten with sticks and kicked in the head and body. Taylor and Woodward were both bound over in the sum of £100 each (£50 surety from each of them and £50 each from their respective fathers) to keep the peace for one year.	1835/014c
Snow Brooks	William Henry Benjamin	Nicholas	Richard	27	08	1835	Offence against licence	L	Nicholas was charged with selling snuff that was in parcels without a certificate attached to the side as required by law. Nicholas pleaded guilty and had 3lbs of snuff confiscated, although no further penalties were applied.	1835/015a
[Justices]		[Beerhouses]		07	09	1835	Extended licensing hours	L	On the basis of an Act of Parliament the magistrates advised that from 10 October 1835 until 10 April 1836 beerhouses should not open earlier than 7 o'clock in the morning and should be closed before 9 o'clock in the evening. From 10 April 1836 to 10 October 1836, the corresponding times would be 6 o'clock in the morning and 10 o'clock in the evening. Exceptions to these rules would be Sundays, Good Friday, Christmas Day and any day appointed for a public fast or thanksgiving when the designated hours would be from 1 o'clock in the afternoon to 9 o'clock in the evening.	1835/015b
Buck	Abraham	Cook	William	12	09	1835	Offence against licence	L	PC Buck charged Cook, the keeper of a beerhouse in Tucker Street, with having his premises open for the sale of beer and cider outside permitted licensing hours, i.e. at 10.25pm, and also allowing card games to be played. Testimony was taken from John Moore, carpenter; William Hopkins; and Abraham Gould.	1835/015c
Moore	Caroline	Isgrove	Joseph	12	10	1835	Assault	A	Moore, a single woman who lived with her parents, accused Isgrove, the father of her child, of coming to her parent's house and kicking and punching her in order to take the child from her. Isgrove's mother had then come to the house to ask Moore to collect her child, but when she went to the house of Isgrove's parents, she claimed that she could hear Isgrove strike the child and found that he would not give it back to her.	1835/016

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Hope	Benjamin	Kingston	Catherine	17	10	1835	Theft	T	Hope, a gentleman, complained that Kingston had stolen a umbrella, two silver pencil cases and several silver spoons from him. He claimed that the objects in question would most likely be found on the premises of Catherine Kingston or Thomas Allen in Tucker Street.	1835/017
Bernard	Mr	Loxton	Thomas	28	10	1835	Theft of apples	T	Robert Parker and William Priest testified to having seen Thomas Loxton stealing apples from an orchard belonging to Mr Bernard between 7.00am and 8.00am. Loxton was convicted of the charge and sentenced to 6 months in prison with hard labour. Note: the year given for this offence may not be correct. The documentation of the case was not completed in full. The case header shows a year in the 1830s and the document was found in a bundle covering the years 1823 to 1835 inclusive. It has been assigned to 1835 in order that it has a valid date.	1835/017a
Toomer	Hester	Harper Creedy	Charlotte Ann	06	11	1835	Vagrancy	V	Toomer claimed that she was followed home by Creedy and Harper who were taunting her and asking her to give them some gin. She claimed that they were using indecent language and their lewd behaviour had attracted a crowd of young men, perhaps as many as 20. There was some corroborating evidence from Mr Nicholls (surgeon?) and PC Brooks described the two defendants as common prostitutes (Brooks gave Harper's forename as Elizabeth, while Hester Toomer called her Charlotte).	1835/018
Sims	John	Vowles Morrow Gould	John John Thomas	06	11	1835	Petty trespass	Pt	Sims, a plasterer resident in Back Lane, claimed that a window in his bedroom was broken around 1.30am. He saw 3 men outside and chased after them into Queen Street and then High Street where he confronted them. He claimed that the window pane was broken by an apple and Vowles was eating apples when he caught up with the defendants. Sims also claimed that Gould had come to his house the next evening and apologised for the damage caused, although he was not the person who had done it. The defendants were found not guilty.	1835/019

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Bartlett	Thomas	Hopkins Rawlings	William ?	06	11	1835	Assault	A	Bartlett, a yeoman, claimed that he was assaulted outside an alehouse by the two defendants. He got into a fight with Hopkins before they were dispersed by the mayor outside whose house they were fighting. Bartlett claimed that the two defendants accompanied him to his house, striking him whenever the opportunity arose. Bartlett's testimony was largely supported by Charles Smith, and also to some extent by Francis Francis, a butcher. However, brief testimony from William Wear suggested that both Bartlett and Smith were staggering drunk.	1835/020
Woollacot	Joseph	Lane	Jeremiah	16	11	1835	Theft of greatcoat	T	Woollacot, a mason, claimed that a greatcoat had been stolen from his house. He suggested that he had cause to suspect the theft had been carried out by Jeremiah Lane and that the coat could be found on his premises at Chewton Mendip.	1835/021
1836										
Vowles	William	Maclean	Dianna	07	01	1836	Vagrancy	V	Complaints were made by the licensees or guests at three beerhouses in Wells, one in St John Street, the Three Kings Inn in High Street and the London Inn in High Street, that Dianna Maclean had caused a disturbance. She had been begging, dancing, playing the Jew's harp and exposing herself. Complaints were made by James Pomeroy, licensee of a beerhouse in St John Street, William Henry Fowles, a schoolmaster, Charles James, a labourer (and nephew of Charles Foxwell, licensee of the London Inn) and James Hodges, also a labourer. Maclean was convicted of vagrancy.	1836/001
Grabham	Samuel	Haddon	George	09	01	1836	Theft of employer's greatcoat	T	Grabham was a waggoner from Chard who ran a regular service from Chard to Bristol via Wells. At one point he had left a greatcoat in the White Hart and he instructed Haddon, his servant, to pick up the coat when he passed through Wells. Haddon repeatedly claimed to have forgotten to pick up the coat, but Grabham was informed by Mrs Bath of the White Hart that Haddon had already picked up the coat. Haddon eventually admitted that he had pawned the coat in Bristol for 10/-.	1836/002

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Charles	William	Ferris Hodges	Thomas Joshua	14	01	1836	Theft of knives	T	Charles, a sadler with a shop in High Street, complained that around 4 dozen knives had been stolen from his shop window. James Pomeroy, a labourer and owner of a beer house, stated that he had two boys stay at his house and they had paid for their beer by giving him a knife. John Hawkins and James Sage had been drinking in the Rising Sun Inn on Mendip when two boys came in and offered two knives at sixpence each. The two witnesses moved to Mrs Hunt's beerhouse further along the Bath Road and asked to see the knives more clearly. When the boys were asked if the knives were stolen, they ran off across the fields throwing away knives as they ran. Sage went back and picked up almost 20 knives from the field.	1836/003
Criddick	George	Wimbridge	John	24	02	1836	Theft	Be	Criddick, a yeoman of North Curry, appears to have performed a citizen's arrest on Wimbridge of Hatch Beauchamp when he encountered him in Wells. Criddick was aware that Wimbridge had been charged with breaking and entering the house of Jacob Webber in Hatch Beauchamp and had absconded immediately afterwards. Criddick believed that holding Wimbridge in custody for a period would enable sufficient evidence to be produced to prove the charge against him.	1836/004a
Dudderidge	George Webb	Lovell	James	07	03	1836	Selling beer outside licensed hours	L	PC Dudderidge charged Lovell with having his beerhouse open for the sale of alcohol after 9.00pm; the beerhouse was in fact open at 10.30pm. Robert Brooks, a tailor, and Robert Manners Brooks, a blacksmith, were to be summoned as witnesses.	1836/004b
Somers	Samuel	Fry	John	07	03	1836	Selling beer outside licensed hours	L	PC Somers charged Fry with having his beerhouse open for the sale of alcohol after 9.00pm; the beerhouse was in fact open at 10.30pm.	1836/004c

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Derham	John	Cox	Joseph	18	03	'836	Absentee apprentice	Ab	Derham, a plaisterer and tiler, had taken on Cox as an apprentice in October 1833. Cox had absconded in June 1835, taking with him some tools belonging to Derham, and had not returned to his master's employ since that date. Derham applied to cancel the apprenticeship indenture and this was granted. The case documents include the original apprenticeship agreement and the formal termination of the apprenticeship.	1836/005
Seal	John	James	George	21	03	1836	Theft of potatoes	T	Seal, a labourer, claimed to have 4 sacks of potatoes in his garden, but he then discovered that some had been stolen. He claimed that a trail of footprints led to the house and premises of George James. He requested a search warrant, but the goods were not found.	1836/006
Gow	Sarah	Butler	George Williams	28	03	1836	Assault	A	Gow accused Butler of assaulting her in High Street by striking her twice in the back with his fist and hitting her with an umbrella. The case was settled without a hearing.	1836/007
Lister	Elizabeth	Johnson	Matthew	28	03	1836	Assault	A	Elizabeth Lister, wife of Thomas Lister, brushmaker, claimed that she had been assaulted in Southover by Johnson, a labourer. She stated that he had kicked her several times and torn her bonnet. The case was settled without a hearing.	1836/008
White	Mary	Bond	Ann	12	04	1836	Assault	A	Mary White was the wife of Jonathan White, a labourer. She had gone to see her mother-in-law, Ann Bond, about comments that Bond had made about Mary White's husband and Mary Stock. Bond was extremely abusive to Mary White, tore her cap and threatened her with a knife. White was rescued from possible assault by the intervention of John Melmouth. The case was settled without a hearing.	1836/009
Gow	Sarah	Slater	William	18	04	1836	Indecent exposure	le	Sarah Gow, a single woman, was in her father's garden in Tucker Street when Slater, two gardens away, exposed himself to her and offered her 1/- to have sex with him through the hedge of the adjoining garden. Gow claimed that there were several other people around at the time, including her sister, William Slater's mother, and John, Mary and Betsy Slater. The case was settled without a hearing.	1836/010

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Clements	Caroline	Wadge	John	28	04	1836	Desertion of wife and family	Ds	Caroline Clements was described as the governess of Wells Union workhouse. She complained that Wadge had run away and left his wife, Sarah, and their three children chargeable to the parish (and had been chargeable for 6 months). The case header document appears to bear the word 'Dead' in pencil. It is not evident if this refers to the status of the case, to Wadge or to something else.	1836/011
Clements	Caroline	Carter	Joseph	28	04	1836	Wilful beglect of wife and family	Ds	Caroline Clements was described as the governess of Wells Union workhouse. She complained that Carter, a labourer, although capable of maintaining himself and his family by working, had wilfully neglected them. As a result, they had become chargeable to the parish.	1836/012
Thorley	George	Johns	George	11	05	1836	Assault	A	According to the testimony of Hugh Paisley, an apprentice at Parsons brush manufacturing business, Johns had come to the factory and challenged any man to fight him. He tried to provoke Henry Oxley into a fight and although he struck Oxley three times, Oxley refused to become involved. The police were called and when PC Thorley arrived and told Johns to go home otherwise he would be arrested, Johns hit him and knocked him down, tearing his trousers and cutting his knee. Johns was convicted of assaulting a police officer in the execution of his duty.	1836/013
Crease	Henry	Westcott	Levi	13	05	1836	Assault	A	Crease and Joseph Badman had been walking down Queen Street when they met Westcott and another man, who were walking arm in arm and appeared completely tipsy. Westcott supposedly called Crease an offensive name and then struck him a blow in the mouth. The case was described as 'compromised' suggesting that it had been settled without a hearing.	1836/014

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Somers	Samuel	Tucker	James	13	05	1836	Resisting constable in execution of duty	Op	Matilda Rose, a servant of Susan Cox in East Wells, complained that Thomas Cox, the son of Susan Cox, had come to the house in a drunken state and had violently assaulted her. The noise made by Thomas Cox had been such that several neighbours had become involved, including William Cottle, Robert Tucker, Samuel Parfitt and James Tucker. The last of these seemed to have some success in calming down Thomas Cox, but the police had been called in and when PC Somers arrived, he attempted to take Thomas Cox into custody. James Tucker physically intervened to prevent Somers taking Cox away and while Somers was being manhandled by Tucker, Cox was able to run away. The case was described as 'compromised' and apparently settled without a hearing.	1836/015
Cook	Thomas	Clements Ayres	William Richard	13	05	1836	Assault	A	Cook, a labourer, claimed that he had been assaulted by Clements and Ayres who had struck him several times and knocked him down. The case is shown as being settled without a hearing.	1836/016
Good	Frank Cooper	Evans	Joseph	18	05	1836	Leaving services of master	Ab	Good was a veterinary surgeon and farrier who had hired Evans as a servant to assist in his business at the rate of £1 per week. There was agreed to be a one-month notice period on either side. Good complained that Evans had left his service with no notice at all. The case was said to be compromised, i.e. settled without a hearing. There is a second document which concerns a similar complaint from Good but is dated 6 August 1836. It is not clear whether it relates to the complaint initiated in May or to a second complaint.	1836/017

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Foxwell	Ann	Montagu	Jane	19	05	1836	Assault	A	Ann Foxwell, wife of William Foxwell, a labourer, complained that she had been assaulted by her neighbour, Jane Montagu. Foxwell had initially approached Elizabeth Montagu, daughter of Jane, and asked her what stories she had been telling about her (Foxwell). At this point Jane Montagu intervened and an exchange of abuse and insults began which ended when Jane Montagu hit Foxwell over the eye with a set of tongs that she had been holding. The case was described as being settled without a hearing. For some reason a note on the reverse of the document states that William Montagu was Jane Montagu's son.	1836/018
Dix	William	Bartlett	Emanuel	16	06	1836	Assault	A	Dix, a labourer, claimed that he had been assaulted by Bartlett, also a labourer, who had struck him several times. The case was settled without a hearing.	1836/019
White White	Ellen William	Cox	Henry	16	06	1836	Trespass	Pt	Ellen White, daughter of William White of Southover, complained that a group of people had been making a noise outside her father's house and then Cox had deliberately thrown a stone at the window, breaking a pane of glass. The case was settled without a hearing.	1836/020
Hill	David	Tilly	William	16	06	1836	Assault	A	Hill, a labourer, claimed that he had been assaulted by Tilly, also a labourer, who had struck him a blow to the side. Tilly appears to have absconded and did not attend the hearing.	1836/021
Fisher	G D	Collier Thomas	Moses James	02	08	1836	Theft of money	T	Fisher had been in the White Hart Inn and when a Mr Hurman wanted to change a £10 note and the landlady was unable to do so. Fisher stepped in and offered a £5 note and five sovereigns. Unfortunately, in his rush to catch the coach he apparently either gave two £5 notes or dropped a £5 note. The note in question appears to have been picked up by Thomas who agreed to split the proceeds with Collier. On the basis of witness statements from Alice Bath, landlady of the White Hart, Mary Tucker, a single woman who had been present in the White Hart, and Charles Binning, a linen draper with whom Thomas had spent part of his 'windfall' on a hat and cravat, Collier and Thomas were charged with a felony. A compromise was evidently reached and no hearing was required.	1836/022

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				DD	MM	YYYY				
Buck	Abraham	Vowles	William	12	09	1836	Contravention of market regulations	Um	PC Buck charged Vowles, a butcher, with selling mutton in St John Street on a market day, a location not licensed for market trading.	1836/022a
Hamilton	William	White	William	19	09	1836	Assault	A	William Hamilton and his wife, Maria, both claimed to have been assaulted and struck by White while they were at the Exmouth Inn run by James Boulting. Several witnesses saw the incident(s) and, according to some of them, James Candy, Levi Westcott and Francis Seal were involved in assaulting Hamilton when the affray moved into the street. Other witnesses claimed that Hamilton had gone to the Lamb where he picked up a poker to attack White and others who had struck Hamilton's wife. Witnesses included James Boulting, licensee of the Exmouth Inn; Charles Mullins, labourer; Robert Loxton, labourer; Samuel Hayes; Mary Ann Hulse, single woman; Fanny Williams, wife of John Williams; Thomas Hartry, labourer. White was fined £1 plus 10/- costs or to serve 2 months in prison.	1836/023
Willis	Thomas	Patch Boulton Hartry Pointing Parker	John James Thomas William Thomas	24	09	1836	Contravention of market regulations	Um	All defendants were charged with selling meat on a market day in a location that was not licensed for trading on a market day. With the exception of Parker who had exposed meat for sale in High Street, all of the others had been attempting to trade in East Wells. All defendants were fined 10/- for the offence.	1836/023a
[Justices]		Parker	Stephen	24	09	1836	Contravention of market regulations	Um	At least two of the documents included in this case appear to be pro forma documents created to bring charges against a number of butchers for contravening the trading regulations governing when and where meat may be exposed for sale in Wells. The other document appears to charge Stephen Parker with exposing meat for sale on a market day in a location not licensed for trading in this manner; Parker had supposedly displayed the meat for sale outside his house in High Street. Parker was said to be fined 10/-. However, the form appears to be incomplete in that it is not dated, there is no information about who brought the complaint and the magistrates are not named.	1836/023b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
[Justices]		[Butchers & Fishmongers]		11	10	1836	Control of locations where meat / fish might be sold	Um	One of the underlying reasons for the Municipal Corporations Act of 1835 was that it had become evident that the jurisdiction of many corporations was defective in that the town or city had extended beyond the limits of the ancient borough. The Wells City Council took the opportunity to extend its control over the locations in which meat / fish might be exposed for sale on a market day. The documents in this case set out a proforma for the prosecution of butchers or fishmongers selling their wares outside locations licensed for market activity on market days. They also set out in rough hand a written form for the prosecutions to be undertaken as a result of police action over a period of around 3 weeks. Details of the individual prosecutions are given in the associated case records that follow.	1836/024
Buck	Abraham	Bence	George	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Buck charged Bence, a butcher, with exposing pork for sale in Sadler Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Date of offence 21 September 1836	1836/024a
Buck	Abraham	Earl	Josiah	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Buck charged Earl, a butcher, with exposing pork for sale in High Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically, the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Date of offence 21 September 1836	1836/024b
Buck	Abraham	Francis	Francis	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Buck charged Francis, a butcher, with exposing beef and mutton for sale in High Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Date of offence 21 September 1836. The case was dismissed.	1836/024c
Buck	Abraham	Hamblin	William	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Buck charged Hamblin, a butcher, with exposing pork for sale in Queen Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Date of offence 21 September 1836. The case was dismissed.	1836/024d
Buck	Abraham	Lawrence	William	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Buck charged Lawrence, a butcher, with exposing mutton for sale in High Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically, the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Date of offence 21 September 1836. The case was dismissed.	1836/025e

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Buck	Abraham	White jnr	James	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Buck charged White, a butcher, with exposing beef and mutton for sale in High Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Date of offence 21 September 1836. White pleaded guilty and was convicted with a fine of 10/- and costs of 4/6d.	1836/024f
Buck	Abraham	Wilkins	James	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Buck charged Wilkins, a butcher, with exposing pork for sale in High Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically, the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Date of offence 21 September 1836. The case was dismissed.	1836/024g
Willis	Thomas	Parker	Stephen	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Willis charged Parker, a butcher, with exposing beef and mutton for sale in High Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Parker was accused of having the meat for sale at his house. Date of offence 24 September 1836	1836/024h
Willis	Thomas	Parker	Thomas	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Willis charged Parker, a butcher, with exposing beef and mutton for sale in High Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Parker was accused of having the meat for sale at his house. Date of offence 24 September 1836	1836/024i
Willis	Thomas	Patch	John	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Willis charged Patch, a butcher, with exposing mutton for sale in East Wells, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically the sale of butcher's meat on a market day. Patch was accused of having a whole sheep and several joints of meat on the side of his door. Date of offence 24 September 1836.	2836/024j
Willis	Thomas	Miles	William	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Willis charged Miles, a fishmonger, with exposing fish for sale in New Street, a location not approved for market activity on a day designated as a market day. Specifically, Miles was accused of hawking soles. Date of offence 1 October 1836.	1836/024k
Willis	Thomas	Miles	George	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Willis charged Miles, a fishmonger, with exposing fish for sale in New Street, a location not approved for market activity on a day designated as a market day. Specifically, Miles was accused of hawking crabs and soles. Date of offence 8 October 1836.	1836/024l

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Buck	Abraham	Vowles	William	12	10	1836	Selling produce in unlicensed location	Um	PC Buck charged Vowles, a butcher, with exposing mutton for sale in St John Street, a location not approved for market activity, and specifically the sale of butcher's meat, on a market day. Date of offence 8 October 1836.	1836/024m
Loxton	Daniel	Bonnett	Joseph	27	10	1836	Theft of greatcoat	T	Loxton, a tailor, had made a greatcoat for a customer in Coxley, but instead of delivering it, went to James Lovell's beerhouse in High Street and then on to the Mermaid Inn in Tucker Street. At the Mermaid Inn he claimed that he put the parcel containing the greatcoat on the stairs only to see his drinking companion, Bonnett, run off with it. Bonnett denied having seen or been in the company of Loxton. The case header document indicates that Bonnett was discharged, but another document suggests that he was to be held in custody until the next quarter sessions.	1836/025
Tuxell	Elizabeth	Edghill	Ann	16	11	1836	Theft of clothes, bed linen	T	Elizabeth Tuxell was the wife of William Tuxell, described as a labourer. She claimed that a significant number of items had been stolen from her house over recent days, primarily articles of clothing and bedding. She suspected that the items concerned could be found at Ann Edghill's house in Southover.	1836/026
Brown	John	Hodges Davis	James James	25	11	1836	Assault	A	Brown, a labourer, claimed that Hodges and Davis had struck him several times. The case was dismissed.	1836/027
Pomeroy	James	Sweet	Charles	26	11	1836	Assault	A	Pomeroy, described as a labourer, claimed that Sweet had pushed his fist in his face and threatened him with personal violence.	1836/028
Saunders	William	Jenkins	Elizabeth	28	11	1836	Abandoning child	Ds	Saunders, one of the Overseers of the Poor, accused Jenkins, a single woman, of leaving her illegitimate daughter, Elizabeth, and making her chargeable to the parish.	1836/029
Biss	Elizabeth	Biss	Richard	02	12	1836	Assault	A	Elizabeth Biss claimed that her husband, Richard Biss, a currier, had attacked her, hitting her with his fists and kicking her when she had been knocked to the floor. She claimed that he had frequently ill-treated her and asked that he should be required to put forward sureties as to his future conduct towards her.	1836/030

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Isgrove	Caroline	Isgrove	Joseph	02	12	1836	Assault	A	Caroline Isgrove complained that Joseph Isgrove, her husband, had assaulted her, hitting her in the mouth and several times in the head with his fists. He was convicted and fined £1.10s.0d with costs of 10/-, all to be paid by 13 December.	1836/031
Parfitt	Maria	Parfitt	Samuel	05	12	1836	Assault	A	Maria Parfitt claimed that her husband, Samuel, a baker, had assaulted her and threatened to kill her. She feared that she would be subject to grievous bodily injury and requested that her husband be required to find sureties with respect to his future conduct towards her. Samuel Parfitt was fined £4.10s.0d with 10/- costs or to serve 14 days in prison.	1836/032
Somers	Samuel	Cox Barrett Hayes	Thomas Joseph Thomas	07	12	1836	Affray	Af	PC Somers was on duty in East Wells when he found Cox and Barrett, both labourers, fighting in the street. He separated them and had them go separate ways, but a short time later he saw Cox and Hayes fighting with Barrett one of the onlookers, All three defendants were bound over in the sum of £10 to keep the peace for the next 6 months.	1836/033
Parker	Farnham	Emery	Joseph	13	12	1836	Assault	A	Parker, a labourer, claimed that he had been set upon by Emery who had knocked him down and then kicked and beat him while he was on the ground. Parker stated that he had suffered much bruising and sustained a broken rib.	1836/034
Bath	Alice	James	Ann	14	12	1836	Theft of silverware and clothes	T	Alice Bath, wife of John Bath, licensee of the White Hart, claimed that several items, including silver spoons and clothes, had been stolen from her house. She suspected that the culprit was Susannah (or Ann) James, a widow of West Pennard, and requested a search warrant for James' premises.	1836/035
Christopher	James	Judd	Benjamin	15	12	1836	Trespass	Pt	Christopher of the Liberty of St Andrew claimed that, while he was in the Coach & Horses in East Wells, Judd came into the pub, took Christopher's hat from his head and damaged it beyond repair. Christopher failed to appear at the hearing, so the case was dismissed.	1836/036

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
1837										
Humphries	James	Corp	William	11	01	1837	Assault	A	Humphries claimed that he was struck several times on the head by Corp, a labourer. The incident took place in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. There is a note which indicates that the case was 'compromised' suggesting that case was settled out of court.	1837/001
Hill	William	Carter	John	16	01	1837	Assault	A	From the information given, it appears that Hill, described as a labourer, was employed in the same forge as Carter. Jacob Rogers brought in a horse to be re-shod and, according to Hill, he asked Carter to lend him a tool to remove the shoe and Carter refused. Hill then proceeded to remove the shoe with another tool and Carter struck him in the face. Testimony from Russell Rawlings largely supported Hill's account. The costs of the case amounted to 11/-.	1837/002
Lovell	James	Brook	John	20	03	1837	Trespass	Pt	Lovell was a carpenter residing in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. He complained that Brook, a labourer, had come to his house and deliberately broken three panes of glass of a value of 6/-. Lovell also requested that Brook be required to put forward sureties as to his future conduct as he feared that Brook would attack him physically. Brook was fined 6/- with costs of 10/-, or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison at Shepton Mallet with hard labour.	1837/003
Brookman	Frederick	Perkins Everdell Parfitt	Edward James Samuel	06	04	1837	Assault	A	The three defendants went to the Bull Inn to take away furniture belonging to Brookman because he owed rent to Everdell. When he resisted their attempts to take away his possessions, a fight ensued in which Brookman claimed he was hit several times in the head. It appears that Everdell was fined 10/- with costs of 8/6d, while Perkins was fined 5/- with costs of 8/6d; there is no reference to the outcome with respect to Parfitt.	1837/004
Murrow	James	[Justices]		10	04	1837	Licence application	La	Murrow, the licensee of the Golden Heart, complained that he had been assessed as owing £3.3s.0d for his beer licence and £6.6s.0d for his spirits licence on the basis that the annual rent of his premises was £20. Since the actual annual rental value of his property was £14 he requested a rebate of £4.4s.0d.	1837/005

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Isgar	Caroline	Bacon	George	15	04	1837	Assault	A	Caroline Isgar, a single woman residing in the In Parish of St Cuthbert, complained that Bacon, a labourer, had struck her a violent blow on the head which knocked her down, and, when she got up, had knocked her down again, striking her several times with his fist.	1837/006
Boyce	Richard	Huish	John	04	05	1837	Assault	A	Boyce, described as an innholder in the In Parish of St Cuthbert, complained that Huish had assaulted him and struck him a violent blow in the face.	1837/007
Ward	Charlotte	Foster	George	11	05	1837	Assault	A	Charlotte Ward, a single woman from Wedmore, complained that Foster had assaulted her and kicked her in the leg. The alleged incident took place in the In Parish of St Cuthbert.	1837/008
Sweet	Eliza	Barnard	Mary	12	06	1837	Assault	A	Sweet was the wife of John Sweet, while Barnard was the wife of James Barnard; both families lived in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. Sweet claimed that Barnard had assaulted her and hit her in the mouth. The case was dismissed as neither party appeared at the hearing.	1837/009
James	Charlotte	White	John	12	06	1837	Assault	A	Charlotte James was a single woman residing in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert. She claimed that she had been assaulted by White, a labourer, who struck her in the face with his fist. The alleged incident took place in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert. The case was dismissed as neither party appeared at the hearing.	1837/010
Millard	Thomas	White	John	12	06	1837	Assault	A	Millard, a butcher residing in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, complained that White, a labourer, had struck him in the face with his fist. The alleged incident took place in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert. The case was dismissed.	1837/011
Bobbett	Ann	Gould	Abraham	12	06	1837	Assault	A	Ann Bobbett, wife of Robert Bobbett, complained that Gould, a labourer, had come into her house in the In Parish of St Cuthbert and pushed her and struck her without provocation. Hannah Chapman, a single woman, testified in support of the plaintiff. The case was dismissed as the parties did not appear at the hearing.	1837/012a
Willis	Thomas	Parker	Thomas	12	06	1837	Selling produce in an unlicensed location	Um	PC Willis accused Parker, a butcher, of selling beef in High Street which was not a market location and Parker had not therefore paid the appropriate toll or licence fee. Parker was fined 10/-.	1837/012b

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Maule	Eliza	Foster	Joseph	13	06	1837	Assault	A	Eliza Maule was the wife of William Maule of the In Parish of St Cuthbert. She complained that Foster, a labourer from Launcherley in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, had assaulted her and struck her several times about the head and face with his fist.	1837/013a
Willis	Thomas	Hawker	Joseph	20	06	1837	Selling produce in an unlicensed location	Um	PC Willis accused Hawker, a butcher, of offering meat (specifically pork) for sale in an area of the town that was not authorised for market trading. Hawker was fined 10/- of which half was to be given to PC Willis as the informer.	1837/013b
Willis	Thomas	White	Elizabeth	26	06	1837	Selling produce in an unlicensed location	Um	PC Willis accused Elizabeth White, wife of James White jnr, a butcher residing in the In Parish of St Cuthbert, of offering meat (specifically mutton) for sale in High Street, an area of the town that was not authorised for market trading. White was fined 10/- of which half was to be given to PC Willis as the informer. White failed to pay the fine by the due date and a distress order was issued to PC Buck to sell goods and chattels of Elizabeth White to cover the fine. PC Buck was unable to discover assets that would enable the fine to be paid, so White was sentenced to one calendar month in prison in Shepton Mallet.	1837/013c
Fry	Charlotte	Creedy	Elizabeth	05	07	1837	Assault	A	Both plaintiff and defendant were single women living in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. Fry complained that Creedy had assaulted her and punched her several times in the face and head.	1837/014
Rich	Sarah	Salmon	John	05	07	1837	Trespass	Pt	Sarah Rich was a single woman living in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. She complained that Salmon, a labourer, had come to her house and deliberately broken 18 panes of glass with a poker. The value of the glass was said to be around 12/-. A note on the case header document shows the word 'compromised', suggesting that the two parties had reached agreement outside court.	1837/015

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
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Fry	Charlotte	Fry Fry	Henry Eliza	03	08	1837	Assault	A	Charlotte Fry was a single woman living in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. She alleged that Henry and Eliza Fry, husband and wife, had assaulted her and struck her several times about the head and face. Charlotte Dyke was also to be called as a witness. The defendants were fined 1/- each and required to pay 6/- in costs, a total of 8/- in all.	1837/016
Maynard	Elizabeth	Bartlett	Emanuel	01	09	1837	Assault	A	Elizabeth Maynard was the wife of Richard Maynard of the In Parish of St Cuthbert. She complained that Bartlett had thrown a shovelful of dirt at her and had also struck her on the arm with the shovel.	1837/017
Parfitt	Samuel	Tucker	Robert	05	09	1837	Assault	A	Both plaintiff and defendant were living in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert. Parfitt, a baker, claimed that Tucker had assaulted him and struck him several times on different parts of his body.	1837/018
Baker	Mary	Loxton Loxton	John Mary	06	09	1837	Assault	A	Mary Baker was the wife of John Baker of the In Parish of St Cuthbert. She claimed that John and Mary Loxton had assaulted her and struck her several violent blows on different parts of her body.	1837/019
Davis	Mary	Chasey Chasey	Sarah Richard	28	09	1837	Assault	A	Mary Davis, a widow from Glastonbury, complained that Sarah, the wife of Thomas Chasey, and her son, Richard, also of Glastonbury, had assaulted her and struck her a number of times on her head, face and legs. The alleged incident took place in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. A note on the case header document indicates 'comprised', presumably intended to be 'compromised', and indicating that the parties had reached a settlement outside court.	1837/020
Redding	Samuel	Brown	Thomas	02	10	1837	Assault	A	Redding, a labourer from the In Parish of St Cuthbert, claimed that he was assaulted by Brown, who struck him several times. A note on the case header document indicates 'compromised', suggesting that the parties had reached a settlement outside court.	1837/021

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Fowles	William Henry	Phipps	Thomas	14	10	1837	Assault	A	Fowles, a schoolmaster, was in Wells Market Place where he saw that Phipps' fish stall was located in an area not designated for the sale of fish. He told Phipps to move the stall and took two crabs from the stall, supposedly to start off the move. Phipps then attacked him and hit him several times. Fowles called in the police and pursued a case of assault. The case was dismissed.	1837/022a
Fowles	William Henry	Miles	George	14	10	1837	Assault	A	See case 1837/022a. Miles, a fishmonger, also became involved in the dispute with Fowles about where stalls ought to be located. Miles also struck Fowles who chose to pursue a charge of assault against Miles. The case was dismissed.	1837/022b
Howe	Ann	Isgar	Caroline	16	10	1837	Assault	A	Both plaintiff and defendant were single women from the In Parish of St Cuthbert. Howe claimed that Isgar had assaulted her and struck her several times. The case header document shows the word 'compromised', suggesting that the parties had settled out of court.	1837/023
[Justices]				10	11	1837	List of police constables	*	List of police constables that had been sworn in. They are shown in 5 groups of 4. The names of those police constables who most frequently appear in petty sessions cases at this time, e.g. Abraham Buck, Thomas Willis etc are not included in the list.	1837/024

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Cardwell	Fanny	James James	Sophia Charlotte	14	11	1837	Assault	A	Fanny Cardwell was a single woman living in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, either in or close to the Exmouth Inn. She claimed that she had been assaulted by Sophia James, wife of George James, and Charlotte James, a single woman (and possibly the daughter of Sophia and George), also residents of the Out Parish of St Cuthbert. Cardwell stated that the defendants came to her house, accused her of spreading a rumour about something (illegible) that Charlotte had brought back from London, and then, while Sophia had held her, Charlotte had beaten her around the face and neck. Charlotte had then hit her across the face with an umbrella. Sophia pleaded not guilty, Charlotte pleaded guilty. Sophia was fined 1/-, Charlotte 2/- with costs of 10/6, or, if in default of immediate payment, one week in prison for each.	1837/025
Chislett	John	Montague	William	17	11	1837	Absconding apprentice	Ab	Chislett, a chimney sweep, had taken on Montague as an apprentice in December 1829. Montague had left his master's service in April 1837 taking with him 6/6d received from a customer and the equipment that he had been using. Montague had not returned until the previous day. He was found guilty of the charges brought against him by Chislett and was apparently sentenced to serve a period in prison, but the form committing him to the House of Correction in Shepton Mallet was not completed with the relevant details.	1837/026
Sparks	Elizabeth	Burridge	Thomas	25	11	1837	Assault	A	Elizabeth Sparks, a resident of the In Parish of St Cuthbert, complained that she had been assaulted by Burridge, a hair cutter from the In Parish of St Cuthbert, who had struck her several times on her head and face. Burridge pleaded guilty to the charge.	1837/027
Derham	John	Bealey	James	01	12	1837	Assault	A	Derham, a resident of the In Parish of St Cuthbert, alleged that Bealey had assaulted him and struck him several times around the head and face. The alleged incident took place in the In Parish of St Cuthbert.	1837/028
Sheppard	William	Brown	Isaac	04	12	1837	Assault	A	Sheppard, a resident of the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, alleged that Brown, also from the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, had assaulted him and struck him in the face. The alleged incident took place in the Liberty of St Andrew.	1837/029

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Badcocks	Henry	Moore	John	09	12	1837	Failing to maintain his family	Ds	Badcocks, the relieving officer for the In Parish of St Cuthbert, accused Moore of running away and leaving his wife, Ann, and 5 children (George, Richard, Mary, Egrapina and Charles) chargeable to the parish.	1837/030
Woodward	William	Gallop	John	14	12	1837	Assault	A	Woodward and Gallop were both resident in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. Woodward claimed that Gallop had assaulted him and struck him several times on the head and face.	1837/031
Barnard	Edward	White	John	22	12	1837	Theft of potatoes	T	Barnard claimed that a quantity of potatoes had been stolen from his potato pit in a field called Nettlebeds in the In Parish of St Cuthbert. He suspected White of Back Lane of having stolen the potatoes and suggested that the stolen goods would be found on White's property.	1837/032
Veale	Mrs	Moore	John	27	12	1837	Petty trespass	Pt	William Gardener, a painter, testified that he saw Moore walking down St Cuthbert Street, swearing. When he got to Mrs Veale's property he deliberately broke several panes of glass in her windows with his hands and then turned around and broke several more panes and their frames by using his back. Gardener estimated that 12 panes had been damaged with a value of around 9/-.	1837/033
1838										
Lewis	John	Thorley	James	04	01	1838	Absentee apprentice	Ab	Thorley was accused of misconduct and ill-behaviour when apprenticed to Wells Brush Manufacturing. On 1st January Thorley had absconded and had not returned.	1838/001
Saunders	William	????	William	09	01	1838	Assault	A	Saunders complained that the horse keeper of the Swiftsure coach, recorded only by his forename, William, allegedly assaulted him, struck him several times in the chest and knocked him down. Note: The Swiftsure was a stage coach that came through Wells en route from Bath to London and stopped at the Swan Hotel.	1838/002
Isgrove	Mary Ann	Bartlett	Emanuel	13	01	1838	Assault	A	Isgrove claimed that Bartlett had struck her violent blows on the head and face. Plaintiff and defendant were both described as being of the In Parish of St Cuthbert.	1838/003

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Burr	James	Larkin	Michael	20	01	1838	Wilful damage	Wd	Burr was the son of Joseph Burr, baker of Wells. Larkin was accused of wilfully and maliciously breaking two panes of glass with a value of 12/-. Larkin was fined 10/- with costs of 7/6d or, if in default, to spend 1 calendar month in prison with hard labour.	1838/004
Short	Joseph	Kingman Green	Elijah William	23	01	1838	Breaking pane of glass	Pt	Short heard a pane of glass in his shop window being broken. Short saw the accused run across the road. A stick had been thrown at the window breaking it at a cost of 2/9d.	1838/005
Buck	Abraham	Hill	William	29	01	1838	Keeping beerhouse open after time specified in the Act	L	Mary Ann Isgrove, witness, admitted that she had gone to William Hill's beerhouse at ten o'clock on a Saturday evening to persuade her mother to come home. She had been prevented from taking her mother home by Emanuel Bartlett who had struck her twice with the back of his hand and had also hit her on the head and face (see also 1838/003). Mary Ann Isgrove stated that she had stayed for more than an hour before she was able to go home. During that time there were beer and cider on the table, and at least three quarts of cider were drawn by Mrs Hill, the landlord's wife. PC Buck therefore charged Hill with being open for the sale of alcohol at a time when the pub should have been closed.	1838/006
Bucknell	Richard	Slater	George	05	02	1838	Theft of ferrets	T	Two ferrets, male and female, were kept in an outhouse in Tucker Street by Bucknell, a labourer. Thomas Phipps, a witness, claimed that he was given 2 ferrets by Slater and asked to keep them for him. The ferrets were later identified by Bucknell as being his.	1838/007
Mullett	Mary	King	John	06	02	1838	Assault	A	Mullett, a single woman of Meare, claimed that she had been assaulted by King from the In Parish of St Cuthbert.	1838/008
Mead	Edwin	Laver	David	13	02	1838	Attempted theft	T	Mead was the proprietor of the Somerset Hotel. John Thrower, a guest at the hotel, found Laver in his room searching his waistcoat pocket and breeches. Laver was captured by the hotel housekeeper and staff in the hotel yard and locked in a stable. Laver was said to be a vagrant.	1838/009
Taylor	Elizabeth	Taylor	Robert	14	02	1838	Assault	A	Elizabeth Taylor, the wife of Charles Taylor of the In Parish of St Cuthbert, complained that Robert Taylor had struck her a violent blow to the head. The case was settled without a hearing.	1838/010

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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[Justices]		Unknown woman		16	02	1838	Stillborn baby	lb	An unknown woman was seen coming out of Green's privy by Mary Ann Brooks, who later saw the same woman at Maynard's beerhouse. Elizabeth Maynard agreed that a strange woman had been in her beerhouse and she had given her tea and a roll; a stain on the floor led her to suspect that the woman had had a miscarriage. A dead baby was found by Ann Smith in Green's privy but it had no marks of violence. The woman was last seen walking towards Westbury.	1838/011
Wells Gas Light Co.		Symes	Samuel	20	02	1838	Non-payment of gas account	N	Thomas Martin, representing the gas company, claimed that Symes had an amount outstanding of 18/- for his dwelling and shop in High Street and this account was now more than 14 days overdue.	1838/012
Wells Gas Light Co.		Howell	James	20	02	1838	Non-payment of gas account	N	Thomas Martin, representing the gas company, claimed that Howell had an amount outstanding of 15/- for his shop in Sadler Street and this account was now more than 14 days overdue.	1838/013a
Willis	Thomas	Maynard	Richard	21	02	1838	Keeping beerhouse open after time specified in the Act	L	PC Willis claimed that the police had visited Maynard's beerhouse at 10.45pm and found several men and women still in the establishment and with a cup of cider on the table. Maynard was fined 40/- for a first offence.	1838/013b
Dudderidge	George Webb	Hill	William	21	02	1838	Keeping beerhouse open after time specified in the Act	L	PC Dudderidge found Hill's beerhouse to be open at 3.30pm, i.e. after the closing time imposed by the statutory licensing hours. There were several men in there, one of whom had a cup of cider in his hand. Hill pleaded guilty and was fined 40/- with costs of 10/-.	1838/013c
Buck	Abraham	Woodburn	Joseph	21	02	1838	Keeping beerhouse open after time specified in the Act	L	PC Buck visited Woodburn's public house at 11.30am on a Sunday morning, i.e. outside licensing hours, and found two men, Thomas Brown and James Sims, with beer on the table. Woodburn pleaded not guilty but was convicted and fined 40/-.	1838/013d
Dudderidge	George Webb	Lovell	Samuel	21	02	1838	Keeping beerhouse open after time specified in the Act	L	PC Dudderidge visited Lovell's beerhouse at 3.45pm on a Sunday afternoon, i.e. outside licensing hours, and found several men drinking, including Joseph Loxton. Lovell asked Dudderidge to ignore the offence. He eventually pleaded guilty and was convicted and fined 40/-.	1838/013e

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Dudderidge	George Webb	Barber	James	21	02	1838	Keeping beerhouse open after time specified in the Act	L	PC Dudderidge visited Barber's beerhouse at 3.45pm on a Sunday afternoon, i.e. outside licensing hours and saw, amongst several others, William Lawrence with a cup of beer which he was attempting to conceal. Barber pleaded not guilty but was convicted and fined 40/-.	1838/013f
Dudderidge	George Webb	Russell	John	21	02	1838	Keeping beerhouse open during hours of divine service	L	PC Dudderidge visited Russell's beerhouse during the hours of divine service and found William Badman and John Westcot with cups and glasses of beer. Russell pleaded not guilty but was convicted and fined 40/-.	1838/013g
Dudderidge	George Webb	Sheppard	William	21	02	1838	Keeping beerhouse open during hours of divine service	L	PC Dudderidge visited Sheppard's beerhouse during the hours of divine service and found George Eyres and several others with cups and glasses of beer. Sheppard pleaded not guilty but was convicted and fined 40/-.	1838/013h
Willis	Thomas	Allen	Levi	21	02	1838	Keeping beerhouse open after time specified in the Act	L	PC Willis visited Levi Allen's beerhouse at 3.30pm on a Sunday afternoon, i.e. outside statutory licensing hours, and found James Langmead and Mrs Armstrong with beer at the table. Allen pleaded guilty and was convicted and fined 40/-.	1838/013i
Willis	Thomas	Cook	William	21	02	1838	Keeping beerhouse open after time specified in the Act	L	PC Willis visited William Cook's beerhouse at 3.20pm on a Sunday afternoon, i.e. outside statutory licensing hours, and found that it was still open with Richard Nash, a soldier, sat at a table with a glass and cup in front of him. Cook pleaded not guilty but was convicted. As it was considered to be his first offence he was fined 40/-.	1838/013j
Somers	Samuel	Allen	William	21	02	1838	Having beerhouse open before time specified in the Act	L	PC Somers visited William Allen's beerhouse at 11.30am on a Sunday morning, i.e. before it should have been open. John Ralph and Charles Sweet were already present and had beer and cider on the table in front of them. Allen was found guilty and fined 40/-.	1838/013k
Buck Dudderidge	Abraham George Webb	Bowell	Elizabeth	21	02	1838	Having beerhouse open outside times allowed in the Act	L	PC Buck visited Mrs Bowell's beerhouse at 11.30am on a Sunday and found it open. James Langmead, John Francis and James Parsons were present and had beer on the table before them. At 3.30pm on the same day PC Dudderidge went to the same beerhouse and found it still open with William Lukins, James Lukins, John Brook and three women present. They offered Dudderidge a drink but he declined. Elizabeth Bowell was found guilty and fined 40/-.	1838/013l

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Foster	George	Maynard Creedy Clegg Toogood	James John John William	28	02	1838	Assault	A	Foster, a cordwainer, claimed that the defendants, all of the In Parish of St Cuthbert, had assaulted him, striking him a violent blow to the head, knocking him down and then kicking him violently in different parts of his body.	1838/014
Parsons	Joseph	Gane	Joseph	01	03	1838	Leaving work in unfinished state	Nc	George Heale was the foreman for Joseph Parsons' hosiery business. He complained that he had delivered 40lbs of wool to Gane who was a workman employed by Parsons to work up the wool to make it suitable for worsteds. Gane had left his work unfinished on the Saturday evening and had not returned to complete it. Since then, he had left Parsons' employ without consent.	1838/015
Henshall Henshall	John Maria	Trenchard Taylor	John James	02	03	1838	Assault	A	The Henshalls claimed that they had both been assaulted in St Cuthbert's churchyard by Trenchard and Taylor. Maria Henshall stated that Trenchard had first tried to kiss her and then struck her. A witness, Edwin Hardy, a watchmaker, claimed to have seen a man and woman on the ground (the woman being Maria Henshall) with two other men on top of them. When Hardy had appeared the two men ran off, one of them jumping over the churchyard wall. The case was settled without a hearing.	1838/016
Peach	John	Russell	John	30	03	1838	Assault	A	Peach, an innholder, claimed that Russell struck him a violent blow on the shoulder with his fist. The case was dismissed.	1838/017
Roberts	Elizabeth	Winter	Thomas	16	04	1838	Sexual assault on a minor	Sa	Elizabeth Roberts was the 12-year old daughter of James Roberts, a fishmonger in Wells. She was walking with her father and Winter, an employee, in Bell Close. Roberts sent his daughter home, accompanied by Winter, saying that he would be back within an hour. When they got home, Winter took the girl up to the garret and began touching her and pulling up her clothes. She shouted for assistance but Winter told her to hush up and continued his assault. When Roberts returned, Winter said nothing to him, but, presumably after talking to his daughter, Roberts called the police.	1838/018

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Dudderidge	George Webb	Millard Millard Brooke	John Eliza John	01	05	1838	Assault	A	PC Dudderidge had been summoned to Southover to arrest Case for creating a disturbance and wrestling in the street with Brooke. Case resisted Dudderidge's arrest and tried to throw the policeman to the ground. Dudderidge called on his brother, James, to help him and got handbolts on Case to drag him away. However, Brooke and the Millards attempted to rescue Case and in the process struck Dudderidge several violent blows, as well as Mrs Millard scratching him in the face. PC Dudderidge was helped by the arrival of reinforcements in the shape of PC Buck and PC Somers. This enabled him to retrieve his staff and he struck both John and Eliza Millard with it. Many people witnessed the incident and statements were provided by John Higgins, wheelwright; Charles Martin; Richard Sully, labourer; Ann Millard, wife of William Millard, gardener; William Saunders, grocer; James Dudderidge, labourer; Sarah Webb, wife of Charles Webb, labourer.	1838/019
Badcock	Henry	Moore	John	12	05	1838	Neglect of wife and family	Ds	Badcock was the relieving officer for Wells Union workhouse. He claimed that Moore, a labourer, was a person who was well able to support his wife and family by work. However, he had chosen not to do so and neglected his wife and 4 children, such that they had become chargeable to the In Parish of St Cuthbert.	1838/020
Parfitt	Maria	Parfitt	Samuel	16	05	1838	Sureties for the peace	Su	Maria Parfitt complained that her husband, Samuel, a baker, had threatened to murder her. She believed that she was at risk of bodily harm and requested that her husband should be required to provide sureties as to his future conduct towards her.	1838/021

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Emery	Joseph	Symes	Samuel	18	05	1838	Wilful damage	Wd	At bedtime Emery instructed his servant, Richard Haggett, to shut the front door leading to the street and bolt it. Soon after there was a noise at the front door and when Haggett investigated he found Mrs Symes in the passage leading to the front door whilst there was a loud banging on the door. Part of the door fell off and when Mrs Symes opened it, her husband, Samuel, came in carrying an iron bar with which he had been beating the door. Symes refused to pay for the damage to the door, saying that Emery should bear the cost. The case against Symes was dismissed; the costs of the case appear to have been 5/6d.	1838/022
Badcock	Henry	Chamberlain	William	24	05	1838	Neglect of wife and family	Ds	Badcock was the relieving officer for Wells Union workhouse. He claimed that Chamberlain was a person who was well able to support his wife and family by work. However, he had chosen not to do so and neglected his wife and children, such that they had become chargeable to the parish. Chamberlain had subsequently agreed to maintain his wife and family and to pay back the costs incurred by the parish at the rate of 4/- per week.	1838/023
Foster	Mary	Foster	Gabriel	31	05	1838	Sureties for the peace	Su	Maria Foster complained that her husband, Gabriel, had assaulted her by striking her with a poker and kicking her leg. She feared that he might do her further bodily harm and requested that he be required to put forward sureties as to his future conduct towards her. Gabriel Parfitt was ordered to put forward a surety of £20 and was bound over to keep the peace for 12 months.	1838/024
Dudderidge	George Webb	Woollacott	Joseph	02	06	1838	Offence against licence	L	PC Dudderidge reported that Woollacott's beerhouse was open for the sale of alcohol after 11.00pm. This was an offence against his licence under the terms of the Beer Act. Woollacott pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined 40/- with costs to be deducted from the fine; payment to be made by 3rd July.	1838/025
Badcock	Henry	Langley	Ruth	04	06	1838	Neglect of child	Ds	Badcock, the relieving officer for the Wells Union workhouse, claimed that Langley had deserted her bastard child causing it to become chargeable to the Liberty of St Andrew.	1838/026

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Coles	Richard	Jenkyns	Thomas	20	06	1838	Theft of leather	T	Coles claimed that he had given Jenkyns a quantity of leather valued at 19/2d to make him a pair of boots. The boots had not been supplied as agreed, but, instead, Jenkyns had purloined the leather and given it to James Phelps of the White Horse Inn in a pledge for beer.	1838/027
Badcock	Henry	Carter	Joseph	22	06	1838	Leaving family chargeable to parish	Ds	Badcock was the relieving officer for the parish of St Cuthbert. Carter was a person who was capable of maintaining his family by working but had wilfully refused to maintain his two children who had been chargeable to the parish for a period of 12 months.	1838/028
Dudderidge	George Webb	Flood	Robert	25	06	1838	Breach of the peace	Dp	PC Dudderidge apprehended Flood, a labourer, in the act of fighting before a crowd of persons. There was considerable uproar and a breach of the peace was committed.	1838/029
Judd jnr	George	Maher Cox	John Charles	27	06	1838	Assault	A	Judd, a brightsmith from the Out Parish of St Cuthbert accused Cox and Maher, also from the Out Parish, of assaulting him and striking him several violent blows. Maher did not appear and the case was dismissed.	1838/030
Baker	Thomas	Moyston	John	02	07	1838	Assault	A	Baker, a yeoman, claimed that he had come to a funeral in East Wells where Moyston, a labourer, struck him several times, knocked him down and tore his cloak. Moyston was fined 10/- with costs of 10/-, to be paid immediately and in default to serve two months in prison at Shepton Mallet.	1838/031
Roberts	James	Carver	James	16	07	1838	Assault	A	Roberts, a fishmonger, complained that Carver, a shoemaker, had assaulted him and struck him a violent blow.	1838/032
Buck	Abraham	Cook	William	16	07	1838	Offence against licence	L	PC Buck charged Cook with serving beer and cider in his house after the statutory hour of 10.00pm. Fined 40/-, to include costs of 10/-.	1838/033
Creighton	Mary	Fisher Bond	William Charles	18	07	1838	Assault	A	Mary Creighton was the wife of Alexander Creighton. She claimed to have been assaulted by Fisher and Bond who struck her and beat her.	1838/034
Fisher	William	Russell Callard	Robert Simon	18	07	1838	Assault	A	Russell and Callard did unlawfully assault the complainant and struck him several violent blows.	1838/035
Mead	Edward	Hardwick	Philip	26	07	1838	Leaving work in unfinished state	Nc	Mead had hired Hardwick to skim 5 acres of ground at the rate of 1/6d per acre. Hardwick left the work in an unfinished state and refused to complete it.	1838/036

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Dudderidge	George Webb	Green	Isaac	02	08	1838	Offence against licence	L	PC Dudderidge charged Green with selling beer and porter during the hours of divine service. Green was fined 40/-.	1838/037
Parrott	Mary	Carver	James	09	08	1838	Assault	A	Mary Parrott was the wife of Henry Parrott, labourer. She claimed that she was assaulted by Carver, a shoemaker, who struck her several violent blows on the head and face.	1838/038
Hewett	Harriett	Badman	Ann	09	08	1838	Assault	A	Badman, wife of William Badman, reputedly struck Hewett several violent blows to the head with her fist and also caught hold of her by the throat whereby she nearly choked.	1838/039
Howell	James	Brown	Thomas	10	08	1838	Assault	A	Howell, a labourer, claimed that Brown, a carpenter, accused him of stealing his snuff box. Brown had struck him several times with a piece of wood and hit him several times on the arm. The case was settled with both parties paying 4/6d each.	1838/040
Vowles	Sarah	Vowles	William	11	08	1838	Assault	A	Sarah Vowles, a widow, claimed that her son, William, had come to her house, abused her verbally and struck her several blows to the head and face. She claimed to have offered him no provocation for doing so.	1838/041
Backhouse	Benjamin	Hodge	John	15	08	1838	Theft of books	T	Backhouse was a stationer and bookseller in Sadler Street (the father of Samuel Backhouse, founder of the Wells Journal), while Hodge was employed for 4 months in Backhouse's printing office. Hodge was accused of stealing 2 books and 3 quires of paper. Hodge lodged with Joseph and Jane Foster in Southover and he gave the books to Joseph Foster who gave them to his wife who then passed them on to PC Somers. Hodge was sent to the Quarter Sessions for trial; witnesses included PC Somers, Jane Foster and Harriet Wills.	1838/042
Norman	Thomas	Badman Bailey	Henry John	17	08	1838	Stealing fruit	T	Badman and Bailey were young labourers working in Mr Norman's garden in the Liberty. Badman picked a peach that was growing there and, when challenged by Howell, claimed it was another boy, presumably Bailey. The value of the peach was 1d.	1838/043

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Purcell	Timothy	Church	Thomas	27	08	1838	Fraudulent enlistment	Fr	Purcell, enlisting for 47th Foot, recruited Church in a beer house in Water Lane. He offered 2/-, Church wanted 5/-. However, the surgeon rejected Church for military service because of his varicose veins, a complaint that Church admitted had already caused him to be rejected. Church was cautioned and told if he tried to enlist again he would be prosecuted as an imposter.	1838/044
Brooks	John	Taylor	Robert	30	08	1838	Assault	A	Brooks, a yeoman, claimed that Taylor had struck him a series of violent blows.	1838/045
Compton	Margaret	Mintern	Elizabeth	05	09	1838	Assault	A	Margaret Compton was a married woman. She claimed that she was unlawfully assaulted by Mintern who struck her a violent blow with her broomstick. There was also a good deal of bad language. There were witness statements from Mary Hayes, wife of Samuel Hayes, and Rosina Higgins, a single woman.	1838/046
Foxwell	Charles	Davies	Robert	10	09	1838	Fraud	Fr	Foxwell was the licensee of the Crown. It appears that a notice of some form was served on him by Davies and Foxwell paid 7/6d. There was also a notice served by Mrs Brooks and a payment made to her of 1/-. It is not clear what these notices related to, nor why Foxwell should pay them. The case header document seems to refer to a plaintiff of Fowles, but there is no mention of that name in the remainder of the very limited documentation.	1838/047
Creedy	Emma	Creedy	Elizabeth	10	09	1838	Assault	A	Emma Creedy, a widow, complained that she had been assaulted and struck in the mouth by Elizabeth Creedy.	1838/048
Judd	Henry	Bendall	William	11	09	1838	Assault	A	Judd, a shoemaker, claimed that he was assaulted by Bendall from the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, who grabbed him by the collar and shook him violently.	1838/049
Dudderidge	George Webb	Fowles	William Henry	15	09	1838	Disturbing the peace	Dp	Fowles, a teacher, brought an effigy into the Market Square on market day. It was generally agreed to be a 'most disgraceful exhibition'. It was removed by PC Dudderidge as it had attracted a large crowd of people and seemed likely to cause a serious breach of the peace. Witnesses: John Wilmott, Robert Davies and Silas Fletcher (the last of these was a member of the Vicar's Choral and had a shop in the Market Place)	1838/050

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Cox	John	Bartlett	Emanuel	18	09	1838	Assault	A	Cox, a labourer, complained that he had been assaulted and struck several times on the head by Bartlett. Bartlett was fined 2/6d with costs of 7/6d, to be paid immediately or to serve one month in prison at Shepton Mallet.	1838/051
Richards	Samuel	Brookman	Frederick	21	09	1838	Petty trespass	Pt	Richards, a tiler and plaisterer, claimed that Brookman had come to his house in High Street and, standing on the doorstep, had verbally abused him so offensively that his wife insisted on shutting the door. At that point Brookman deliberately broke the window with his elbow. Richards valued the damage at 3/-.	1838/052
Richards	Harriet	Richards	William	01	10	1838	Assault	A	Harriet Richards complained that her husband, William, a basketmaker, had assaulted her and struck her several times with his fist.	1838/053
Burr	Henry	Flood	Robert	02	10	1838	Assault	A	Burr, a woolcomber, claimed that he had been assaulted by Flood who had subjected him to a very violent shaking.	1838/054
Rolle	Edward	Fowles	William Henry	04	10	1838	Drunkenness	D	Rolle, the High Constable of Wells, complained that there had been a considerable noise outside his house made by a drunken Fowles who had attracted a crowd of some 30 people and was haranguing them loudly. Rolle had handed Fowles into police custody for him to be dealt with appropriately. Fowles later confessed to having been drunk.	1838/055
Vincent	Valentine	Langley	Ruth	04	10	1838	Idle & disorderly conduct	V	Vincent, a porter at Wells Union workhouse, claimed that Langley, a single woman, had brought her child, a girl between the ages of 2 and 3, to the workhouse and left her there. Langley was considered to be a fit and able-bodied woman able to support her child by working.	1838/056
Heale	George	Hayden	Stephen	06	10	1838	Assault	A	Heale complained that he had been assaulted by Hayden who had struck him a violent blow in the eye.	1838/057

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Harrold	Henry	Wilmott	Joseph	12	10	1838	Theft of rivets and bolts	T	Harrold was a coachuider with a workshop in Grove Yard, while Wilmott was a blacksmith, who had a shop within Harrold's workshop. Harrold claimed that Willmott had stolen a quantity of rivets and bolts from his coachworks; 25-30 of these objects were found in Willmott's box. Harrold estimated the value of the articles stolen to be about 15/-. There were witness statements from Edmund Harrold, Henry's son, and James Yerbury, a journeyman employee, supporting Harrold's complaint.	1838/058
Maher	Elizabeth	White	William	13	10	1838	Sexual assault	Sa	Maher, the wife of John Maher, complained that she had been assaulted by White, a resident of the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, who had caught hold of her in a very indecent manner. White pleaded guilty to the charge.	1838/059
Melmouth	Elizabeth	Payne	Charlotte	13	10	1838	Assault	A	Elizabeth Melmouth claimed that Charlotte Payne, the wife of John Payne, tailor, had a barrow on the pavement outside her house and would not move it in order to allow Melmouth to pass. Melmouth also claimed that Payne pushed her and tried to knock her over; in addition, Payne swore at her and continued doing so as she walked down the street.	1838/060
Buck	Abraham	Bowers	James	01	11	1838	Theft	T	PC Buck arrested Bowers (aka Bradford Jemmy) near the fair which was taking place in Wells. Bowers was a reputed thief and Buck was familiar with him and his method of operation. When being taken into custody Bowers dropped 3 thimbles. Benjamin Brooks then searched Bowers in gaol and found a pocket book containing a note that was intended to resemble a £5 note. Bowers was convicted of being a rogue and vagabond and sentenced to 3 months with hard labour in prison at Shepton Mallet.	1838/060a
Wills	Thomas	Green	Samuel	02	11	1838	Theft of spectacles	T	Wills was sitting in the Star Tap when Green came in and asked to borrow a pair of spectacles so that he could read a piece of paper that he had picked up on the way from Shepton Mallet. Wills lent Green his spectacles so that he could read the piece of paper and Green then put the spectacles in his coat pocket and left the pub.	1838/061

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Dudderidge	George Webb	Woodard	John	05	11	1838	Bull baiting	C	PC Dudderidge charged Woodard with cruelly beating and baiting a bull with dogs. The incident took place at the Sherston Inn. Charles Sage, a labourer from the parish of Stoke Lane, complained about Woodard's involvement in the bear baiting. Woodard pleaded not guilty but was fined 10/- with costs of 6/-.	1838/062
Dudderidge	George Webb	Russell	Thomas	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	In the same incident as 1838/062, PC Dudderidge saw Russell cruelly bait a bull and set a dog on it. A witness statement was provided by Charles Sage. Russell did not attend the hearing but the case was heard and in his absence he was fined 10/- with costs of 7/-.	1838/063
Dudderidge	George Webb	Moyson jnr	John	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	In the same incident as 1838/062 PC Dudderidge stated that Moyson had thrown a large stone which hit the bull on the head. A witness statement was provided by Charles Sage. Moyson did not attend the hearing but the case was heard and in his absence he was fined 10/- with costs of 7/-; the fine was recorded as paid. The case documents seem to show the defendant's name as Maydon, but an official return listing fines and penalties shows the name as Moyson. Since this is a name that has appeared elsewhere in petty sessions cases, Moyson has been used here (see also 1841/024a).	1838/064
Dudderidge	George Webb	Melmouth	George	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	In the same incident as 1838/062 PC Dudderidge claimed that Melmouth was taking an active part in the bull baiting. A witness statement was also provided by Charles Sage. Melmouth pleaded not guilty but was fined 5/- with costs of 6/-.	1838/065
Dudderidge	George Webb	Hopkins	William	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	PC Dudderidge claimed to have seen Hopkins taking a full part in proceedings.	1838/066
Dudderidge	George Webb	Showring	Samuel	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Showring of Shepton Mallet was seen to be taking a very active part in proceedings with a bulldog.	1838/067
Dudderidge	George Webb	Bartlett	Emanuel	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	PC Dudderidge saw Bartlett taking an active role by holding the rope and pulling the bull.	1838/068
Dudderidge	George Webb	Ayres jnr	Richard	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Played a similar role to Bartlett	1838/069
Dudderidge	George Webb	Cox	Thomas	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	PC Dudderidge claimed that Cox wilfully and cruelly beat, abused and ill-treated a bull. Fined 5/- with costs of 5/-.	1838/070
Dudderidge	George Webb	Crandon	William	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Charged with cruelly beating, abusing and ill-treating a bull. Witness statement from Charles Sage. Fined 5/- with costs of 5/-.	1838/071

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Dudderidge	George Webb	Jenkins	James	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Charged with cruelly beating, abusing and ill-treating a bull. Witness statement from Charles Sage. Fined 5/- with costs of 5/-.	1838/072
Dudderidge	George Webb	Cox	Joseph	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Charged with cruelly beating, abusing and ill-treating a bull. Fined 5/- with costs of 5/-.	1838/073
Dudderidge	George Webb	Cottle	Matthew	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Charged with cruelly beating, abusing and ill-treating a bull. Pleaded guilty and fined 5/- with costs of 5/-.	1838/074
Dudderidge	George Webb	White	Thomas	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Charged with cruelly beating, abusing and ill-treating a bull. Pleaded guilty and fined 5/- with costs of 5/-.	1838/075
Dudderidge	George Webb	White	William	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Charged with cruelly beating, abusing and ill-treating a bull. Witness statement from PC Buck. Pleaded guilty and fined 5/- with costs of 5/-.	1838/076
Somers	Samuel	Cox	George	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Charged with cruelly beating, abusing and ill-treating a bull. Fined 5/- with costs of 5/-.	1838/077
Dudderidge	George Webb	Cottle	William	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Charged with cruelly beating, abusing and ill-treating a bull. Witness statement from Charles Sage. Fined 5/- with costs of 5/-.	1838/078
Dudderidge	George Webb	Howell	James	06	11	1838	Ill treatment of a bull	C	Charged with cruelly beating, abusing and ill-treating a bull. Witness statement from Charles Sage.	1838/079
Lovell	James	White	William	16	11	1838	Assault	A	Lovell, a carpenter, claimed that White, a butcher, had used very abusive language towards him, threatened him with extreme physical violence and had shaken a stick at him.	1838/080
Vivian	Silas	Vowles	John	17	11	1838	Assault	A	Vivian complained that Vowles had assaulted him by striking him several times with his fists.	1838/081
Hosking	George	Benson	William Henry	30	11	1838	Non-payment of applicable excise duty	N	Hosking was an excise officer, Benson a dealer in tobacco. Benson was charged with evading duty on tobacco sold. Benson confessed and was convicted. The penalty due was £50 but this was mitigated to £12.10s.0d, including costs of £1.10s.8d.	1838/082
Somers	Samuel	White	William	06	12	1838	Assault	A	PC Somers claimed that White had caught hold of him and struck him several times, assaulting him and resisting him in the execution of his duty.	1838/083
Churchill	John Hanlon	Langley	Ruth	08	12	1838	Desertion of child	Ds	Churchill was the master of the workhouse. Langley was a single woman with a bastard child which she wilfully neglected and refused to maintain, meaning that the child remained chargeable to the parish. Churchill desired that Langley should be required by the law to discharge her responsibilities as a parent.	1838/084

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Somers	Samuel	Grist Voysey	Charles John	12	12	1838	Assault on police officer in execution of his duty	A	PC Somers was in the process of arresting William White (see case 1838/083) and was about to hand him over to the gaoler when Grist and Voysey dragged White free and then kicked and punched Somers.	1838/085
Bartlett	William	Brown	John	12	12	1838	Petty trespass	Pt	John Isgrove, a labourer, gave a statement that he had seen a piece of rope belonging to William Bartlett that had been attached to a scaffold on some building on George Bartlett's premises and that rope had been cut into pieces by Brown. When asked why he had done it, Brown stated that he did not care, he had simply been told to do it. The value of the damage was estimated at 6d. Brown was convicted of the offence and ordered to pay 6/6d immediately or serve 1 week in prison with hard labour.	1838/086
Somers	Samuel	White	William	12	12	1838	Assault on police officer in execution of his duty	A	While he was taking a drunken woman into custody, PC Somers claimed that he heard White say that he would beat out the brains of the first bloody policeman that he saw. White then attacked Somers, striking him several times and knocking him down. White was required to put forward a surety of £5 to keep the peace for a period of 6 months.	1838/087
Somers	Samuel	Williams	John	21	12	1838	Possession of counterfeit coins	S	PC Somers arrested Williams on suspicion of intention to commit a felony. Williams had in his possession a coin with the appearance of a half sovereign and a note having the appearance of a £5 note; in addition he had a piece of cord and 2 keys. Williams was unable to give a satisfactory explanation of the counterfeit money.	1838/088
Dudderidge	George Webb	Gibbons	William	26	12	1838	Assault on police officer in execution of his duty	A	PC Dudderidge stated that he was in Southover and heard Gibbons abusing the police. Gibbons then struck Dudderidge a violent blow on the head, knocking off his hat.	1838/089
1839										
Dudderidge	George Webb	Wickham	John	07	01	1839	Selling alcohol outside permitted hours	L	At midnight PC Dudderidge found a group of noisy people coming out of the Tailor's Arms, a public house run by Wickham. Witnesses were Thomas Willis, William Chamberlain and John Creedy, all of them tailors.	1839/001

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Rolle	Edward	Stacey	James	09	01	1839	Theft of cutlery	T	Rolle, an innholder, accused Stacey, a labourer resident in Tucker Street, of stealing cutlery, including silver spoons, from his inn.	1839/002
Fletcher	Silas George	Vinen	James	09	01	1839	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Fletcher was an Overseer of the Poor in the Liberty of St Andrew. He accused Vinen, the occupier of a stable, yard and garden, of refusing to pay the poor rate of £1.2s.6d.	1839/003
Millard	William	Taylor	Robert	12	01	1839	Wilful damage	Wd	Millard was a labourer living in Southover. His wife, Anne, heard several panes of glass in their house being broken at about 1am. Taylor, a butcher, was seen breaking the glass by Robert and Sara Millard who lived in the house opposite. The cost of the damage was 10/- . Taylor was fined 10/- with costs of 10/6d.	1839/004
Francis	Robert	Hutchings	Isaac	12	01	1839	Theft of meat	T	Hutchings illegally entered Francis' premises and cut meat from two hanging steaks belonging to Francis . He was seen by Harriet Ellis, the 8-year old daughter of Jane Vowles. The nature of the damage was confirmed by William Lawrence, a butcher.	1839/005
Dudderidge	George Webb	Jenkins	James	14	01	1839	Theft of saw	T	PC Dudderidge arrested Jenkins on a charge of stealing a saw from the workshop of John Woodburn in St John Street. Jenkins was sent to gaol in Shepton Mallet until the next quarter sessions but was bailed on a bond of £4.	1839/006
Taylor	Elizabeth	Taylor	Robert	14	01	1839	Assault	A	Taylor, a butcher, had returned home drunk and used threatening language and behaviour against his wife. She fled to her brother and next door neighbour, William Millard, and Taylor then threw stones at Millard's windows (see case 1839/004). Taylor was sentenced to one month in prison at Shepton Mallet as he was unable to put forward sureties as a bond for his future conduct.	1839/007
Western	James	Taylor	Robert	15	01	1839	Assault	A	Western, a cordwainer, claimed that Taylor, a butcher, had assaulted him and struck him several times around the head.	1839/008
Parsons	Joseph	Flood	Robert	17	01	1839	Absconding apprentice	Ab	Parsons was a brush manufacturer He claimed that Flood, who had been apprenticed to him for 5 years, had displayed many instances of misconduct and had now absented himself from work without permission. Flood was committed to prison for 10 days.	1839/009

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Chamberlain snr	William	[Justices]		18	01	1839	Application for bail	??	An application to the justices to bail his son, William Chamberlain jnr from Shepton Mallet prison. William Chamberlain snr offered to provide the appropriate bail bond. His application was witnessed by William Hill and Thomas Lax.	1839/010
Allen	Levi	Sims	Samuel	18	01	1839	Assault	A	Allen, a blacksmith, went to Sims' house to collect some money that he was owed. Sims allegedly grabbed him by the collar and pushed him out of the door with such force that some of Allen's clothing was torn. Sims was fined 1/- with costs of 7/6d; the fine was recorded as paid.	1839/011
Matthews	Eliza	Anderson	John	26	01	1839	Wilful damage	Wd	Matthews was the daughter of Elizabeth & Joseph. Anderson was a chimney sweep. Sarah Bale, a witness, claimed that Anderson had pushed a bag of bread off the head of Eliza Matthews, damaging the bread which had a value of 3/-. Anderson was fined 3/- with costs of 7/6d of which 5/- was unpaid; in the case of default, the sentence was one calendar month in prison with hard labour.	1839/012
Mack	James	Surbutt	James	26	01	1839	Dangerous dog	Dd	Mack, a labourer, claimed that in the Liberty of St Andrew, Surbutt (Sowerbutt?), also described as a labourer, had set his dog on him and had assaulted him as well. Mack was bitten on the leg and had to be treated by a surgeon. The case was settled without a hearing with Surbutt paying costs of 4/6d.	1839/013
Howe	William	Crandon White	William William	28	01	1839	Breaking windows	Pt	Howe, a labourer living in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, alleged that Crandon and White threw stones at his windows at 2.00am, breaking two panes of glass (value 16d) and then ran away laughing. They were witnessed by John Hill, a labourer. The defendants were fined 1/4d with costs of 7/6d. In default of immediate payment the two defendants would serve 2 calendar months in prison with hard labour.	1839/014
Willis	Thomas	Denham	Jane	29	01	1839	Selling alcohol outside licensing hours	L	PC Willis found that Denham was selling beer at 10.00am. A fine of 40/-, including costs of 10/- was imposed. The fine was recorded as being paid.	1839/015
Dudderidge	George Webb	Wickham	John	29	01	1839	Selling alcohol outside licensing hours	L	PC Dudderidge found that Wickham was selling beer outside the statutory licensing hours. Wickham was fined 40/-, including costs of 10/-; the fine was recorded as being paid.	1839/016

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Syms	Samuel	Allen	Levi	29	01	1839	Selling alcohol outside licensing hours	L	Syms, a confectioner, reported Allen, a blacksmith and licensee of a public house, for selling alcohol outside permitted licensing hours, i.e. after 10.00pm. Allen pleaded not guilty, but was convicted on the evidence of Syms and PC Buck, and was fined 40/-, including costs of 10/-. The fine was recorded as being paid. See also 1839/011.	1839/017
Martin	Thomas	Bartlett England	George William	30	01	1839	Non-payment of gas bill	N	Martin, on behalf of Wells Gas Light Co, claimed that Bartlett, a yeoman, and England, a chemist & druggist, had responsibility for the gas used in a chapel in Southover and owed £8.5s.3d, but had failed to pay the sum outstanding.	1839/018
Webb	John	Vellender	Ishmael	31	01	1839	Assault	A	Webb, a labourer from Shepton Mallet, claimed to have been assaulted by Vellender, a blacksmith. The case was settled without a hearing.	1839/019
Bernard	Henry Jones	Sawdell	Thomas	04	02	1839	Cruelty to a mare	C	Sawdell, a labourer, was accused of cruelly beating a mare. Isaac Green, a carrier, was called as a witness. Sawdell was required to pay a fine of 5/- with costs of 9/-. The fine was recorded as being paid.	1839/020
Harris	Henry	Ellsworthy	Henry	05	02	1839	Assault	A	Harris, a carpenter, claimed that Ellsworthy, also a carpenter, had assaulted him and struck him without any just cause. The alleged incident took place in the In Parish of St Cuthbert.	1839/021
Dudderidge	George Webb	Bartlett	Emanuel	11	02	1839	Assault	A	PC Dudderidge had arrested William Gibbons on a charge of assault and was taking him into custody when Bartlett, who had been with Gibbons at the time of his arrest, assaulted Dudderidge with the aim of releasing Gibbons.	1839/022
Fry	Henry	Ford	Caroline	11	02	1839	Theft of boots	T	Fry, a shoemaker, accused Ford of stealing a pair of boots from him. Ford was sent to prison in Shepton Mallet to await trial at the next Quarter Sessions.	1839/023
Garrard	James	Flower	Nathaniel	15	02	1839	Begging	V	Garrard, a gentleman, stated that Flower had come to his home with a begging petition and called himself William Ashman. He claimed to have been recommended to Garrard by Mr Wickham. Garrard turned him out and reported him to the police. PC Somers had seen Flower begging from door to door and was told a similar but equally untrue story. Flower was sent to prison in Shepton Mallet for 14 days with hard labour.	1839/024

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Dudderidge	George Webb	Hill	Thomas	18	02	1839	Assault	A	PC Dudderidge found a great commotion going on in the street where Hill was drunk and acting in a very disorderly fashion. With the assistance of PC Willis, Hill was arrested although he did assault and kick Willis in the course of the arrest. Hill was fined 5/- with costs of 7/-.	1839/025
Weston	John	Perrior	John	18	02	1839	Non-payment of poor rate	N	Weston was one of the Overseers of the Poor for the Liberty of St Andrew. He had been pursuing Perrior for more than a month to recover the outstanding amount of 12/- owed by Perrior for the poor rate assessment of February 1838.	1839/026
George	Richard	Tuxell	William	01	03	1839	Theft	T	George of Southover claimed that Tuxell had stolen a plank of wood from his premises. Around two years before, George had asked Thomas Caple, a neighbour, to look after this property that, at the time, was void. While he was looking after this property, Caple had constructed a bowling alley and had used a spare plank as a backboard. He acknowledged that this plank did not belong to him and averred that he had not said to Tuxell that he could have it. Tuxell, however, was under the impression that he could take the plank and did so, breaking it up before taking it away. John Marshall, a labourer who was at the property when Tuxell removed the plank, said that the wood was rotten and not worth more than 6d. The case header document has a note that indicates the case was 'Not used'.	1839/027
Lax	George	Wilson	John	08	03	1839	Theft	T	Lax accused Wilson of cutting down and carrying away a hedge from one of Lax's fields at Goodymoor. Witnesses were Charles Taylor, butcher; Fred Taylor, labourer; Thomas Bartlett, yeoman; Hardy Cox, labourer; James Dressel, labourer. Wilson was fined £1, with a penalty of £1 and costs of 11/-; the fine and penalty were recorded as being paid.	1839/028

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Overseers of the Poor		Heath	Albion	11	03	1839	Sureties	Su	Heath, a carpenter from Shepton Mallet, was the reputed father of a female bastard child to Edith Court, a single woman. As Edith Court was unable to maintain the child, it had become chargeable to the Liberty of St Andrew and was therefore the responsibility of the Overseers of the Poor. Heath was required to put forward recognisances of £50 to ensure that he attended the next General Quarter Sessions on 25 March and then abided by whatever order was placed upon him at that hearing to support the child. If he was unable to make available the money, it would be levied by the forced sale of his goods and chattels.	1839/029
Parfitt	Maria	Parfitt	Samuel	11	03	1839	Assault	A	Maria Parfitt claimed that she had been attacked by her husband, Samuel, a labourer, and struck several times. He had also threatened to murder her and she requested that he be required to find sureties to keep the peace towards her. Parfitt refused to put forward the recognisances required and was sent to prison to await a hearing at the next General Quarter Sessions.	1839/030
Burr	Joseph	Dix	Mrs	12	03	1839	Theft	T	Burr claimed that two £5 notes and two sovereigns had been stolen from his shop by the wife of someone called Dix. Burr had identified that she was a lodger at the house of John Haughton in Haydon in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert and he suggested that the money involved was likely to be found there. He requested that a search warrant for these premises should be issued.	1839/031
Hiscox	Richard	Parker	George	14	03	1839	Driving with no guide	Rd	Hiscox, a tollgate keeper, claimed that Parker, a labourer, was driving dangerously, as he had no-one either on foot or on horseback to guide his horse and cart. Neither party appeared at the hearing.	1839/032
Churchill	John Stanton	Langley	Ruth	14	03	1839	Abandoned baby	Ds	Churchill was master of Wells workhouse. Langley was a single mother who had abandoned her child at the workhouse; as a result the child had become chargeable to the parish. See also 1838/084	1839/033

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Fletcher	Silas George	Barry	???	16	03	1839	Refusal to complete assigned work	Nc	Fletcher, a boot and shoemaker, claimed that Barry had been employed by him. He had given Barry a pair of boots to repair and some leather with which to do the work, agreeing with him that the work would be ready that night. It wasn't - and Barry was still refusing to complete the work. In addition, it appeared that Barry had gone to work for George Foxwell, another boot and shoemaker.	1839/034
Badcock	Henry	Fry	Sophia	16	03	1839	Abandoned child	Ds	Badcock was relieving officer for the In Parish of St Cuthbert. He claimed that Fry, a single woman who had given birth to an illegitimate male child, had absconded from the workhouse leaving the child chargeable to the parish.	1839/035
Dudderidge	George Webb	Burton	Edith	16	03	1839	Vagrancy	V	PC Dudderidge described Burton as a common prostitute. He found her behaving in a riotous and disorderly manner and fighting with Caroline Perrin, another prostitute. She was convicted as an idle and disorderly person and was sentenced to 14 days in the House of Correction at Shepton Mallet.	1839/036
Plenty	George	York	John	16	03	1839	Assault	A	Plenty was the manager of the London Inn. He claimed that York had come into his house, taken the beer glasses of several customers and drank the contents. Plenty tried to get him to leave and York resisted forcibly before being handed over to the police. York was fined 3/6d with costs of 6/6d, and was either unable or unwilling to pay, so was sentenced to prison for one calendar month.	1839/037
Alton	Richard William	Warcup	Henry	27	03	1839	Theft of watch	T	Alton, a linen draper, claimed that Warcup had stolen his gold watch in the Swan Inn in Wells. Alton had then apprehended Warcup in a hotel in Taunton. Warcup had surrendered his possessions to Alton, including a gold watch, and had allowed himself to be searched, and brought to Wells for a hearing. James Cowdrey, the porter at the Swan Inn, confirmed that Warcup had spent the previous night at the hotel and had left at 5.45am saying that he was going to Cheddar and would be back that night. Warcup made a voluntary statement in which he declined to say anything and would not even give his true name.	1839/038

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Alton	Richard William	Warcup	Henry	28	03	1839	Theft of watch	T	Warcup was sent to gaol for the theft of a gold watch. The term of the gaol sentence was not specified. See case 1839/038.	1839/039
White	John	Cox	Thomas	01	04	1839	Obtaining money by false pretences	Fr	White was a butcher in East Wells, Cox was also a butcher. Cox claimed to have bought 7 calves from James Binning but was supposedly prepared to give up this bargain if White paid him half a sovereign. White paid the money but, when he contacted Binning about the calves, Binning denied that Cox had bought any calves from him. The case was settled on payment of 10/- by Cox.	1839/040
Hamblin	William	Johnson Addams	Matthew Stephen	01	04	1839	Assault	A	Hamblin, a pork butcher, had been drinking rum and water in the Full Moon when Johnson took away his glass and (apparently) drank the contents. Hamblin then tackled Johnson and a scuffle broke out. Addams sought to help Johnson but was, in part, prevented by the intervention of the landlord, James Barber. Both Barber and his daughter, Ann, provided witness testimony. The defendants were each fined 5/- with Addams being required to pay costs of 7/6 and Johnson seemingly needing to pay 10/- in costs, although he was given 2 weeks in which to pay. Both Johnson and Addams appear to have paid the sums involved.	1839/040a
Jenkins snr	James	Jenkins jnr	James	08	04	1839	Assault	A	Jenkins snr, a plaisterer and tiler, claimed that his son, described as a labourer, had dealt him several violent blows to the head with a kitchen poker and had threatened to murder him. He asked that his son be required to put forward sureties to secure his future conduct towards his father. Jenkins jnr was ordered to put forward a surety of £20 to keep the peace for the next 6 months.	1839/041
Fowles	Henry	Bartlett Parker	Cornelius Stephen	15	04	1839	Refusal to divulge information	Ri	Fowles, a schoolmaster, complained that the defendants, Surveyors of the Highways for the In Parish of St Cuthbert, would not allow him to inspect the rate assessment for repair of the highways. The case was settled with the Surveyors paying the expenses of 3/6d..	1839/042
Sage	Caroline	Adlam	George	18	04	1839	Assault	A	Sage, a single woman from Hayswater in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, accused Adlam, a farmer from Wookey, of assaulting her. The case was settled without a hearing.	1839/043

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Fry	William	Huish	Susannah	18	04	1839	Receiving stolen goods	Rv	Fry was a mealman operating a mill in West Street with his brother Charles. His mill had been broken into and flour had been stolen. According to Anne Creedy, her landlady, Eleanor Allen, had received some of the stolen flour and hidden it under a bed. Creedy appears to have advised Allen to get rid of the flour or she could be in trouble, so Allen sent her son, Edward, to take the flour to her mother, Susannah Huish, wife of Henry Huish. Huish had apparently moved the flour from location to location in her house to conceal it from official searches, but eventually she had left the flour in a field belonging to William Fry and advised him where it was. The case then appears to have been dropped and was designated as 'Not used'.	1839/044
Fry	William	Glass	Robert	18	04	1839	Theft of flour	T	Fry was a flour dealer who operated a mill in Bull Lane with his brother, Charles. Fry was concerned that he had been losing a good deal of flour from the mill and suspected that Glass, formerly employed as a miller, had been stealing it or conniving in it being stolen. George Allen, a boy of 13, admitted that Glass had allowed him to take flour from the mill on two or three occasions, but only a cupful or a little more to make some paste. The case was described as 'Not used'.	1839/045
Bonfield	Edwin	Woodward	James	22	04	1839	Ill-treatment of apprentice	It	Bonfield claimed that Woodward, to whom he was apprenticed as a shoemaker, had refused to give him any work. The case was said to have been settled without a hearing with Woodward paying 1/-.	1839/046
Newman	Mary Ann	Appleby	Elizabeth	22	04	1839	Assault	A	Newman appears to have suggested that Appleby had come up to her and pushed her down. Both plaintiff and defendant were described as single women.	1839/047
Overseers of the Poor		Jenkins	Thomas	22	04	1839	Non-payment of poor rate	N	On behalf of the Overseers of the Poor Robert Sawtell claimed that Jenkins was owing 9/- for the Poor Rate and had refused to pay it. A distress order was issued for 9/-, plus a penalty of 4/- and reasonable costs. This allowed the law officers involved to sell the goods and chattels of Thomas Jenkins to the value of the monies to be recovered. However, the order could not be served on Jenkins because he had left town before the warrant was issued.	1839/048

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Hopkins	John	Yerbery	James	23	04	1839	Assault	A	Hopkins, an apprentice working for John Godfrey, a linen draper, was sent to Yerbery's (Yeoberry?) premises in George Yard to pick up some shafts and a cart that Yerbery had been repairing. He was followed to the yard by Godfrey who instructed him to take away the items involved, but Yerbery refused to let him take them away without payment. When Godfrey insisted that Hopkins proceed as per his instructions, Yerbery then struck Hopkins in the head, knocked him down and then kicked him when he was on the ground. Yerbery was fined 13/- with costs of 7/- or to serve one calendar month in prison with hard labour at Shepton Mallet. Yerbery is recorded as having paid the fine.	1839/049
Parsons	Joseph	Hopkins	William	25	04	1839	Theft	T	Parsons, a brush manufacturer, claimed that Hopkins, one of his suppliers, had detained goods belonging to him. The case was settled without a hearing with 1/6d to be paid by Hopkins.	1839/050
[Justices]		Brookman	William	25	04	1839	Request to release from prison	RI	William Brookman was being held in gaol prior to a trial at the next General Quarter Sessions. Frederick Brookman had put forward a recognizance on behalf of William Brookman so that he could be released on bail while awaiting the trial. The magistrates therefore requested that Brookman be released from Shepton Mallet prison. The document relating to Brookman has a number of handwritten amendments and there also appears to be a different date shown as part of these amendments i.e. 4 June 1840.	1839/051
Russell	Joseph	Collins Mack	William James	27	04	1839	Assault	A	Russell, a labourer from the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, complained that he had been assaulted by Collins and Mack, both described as labourers. The case header document has the text 'Made up' shown on it; the meaning is not clear.	1839/052
Cox	Thomas	White	John	07	05	1839	Assault	A	Cox, a butcher, claimed that White, also a butcher, had assaulted him without provocation. The case header document and the summons both contain the text 'Made up'; the meaning is not clear.	1839/053
Hallier	John	Watson	Henry	14	05	1839	Assault	A	Hallier, a labourer, claimed that Watson, also a labourer, had assaulted him without cause. The case was settled as the parties did not appear.	1839/054
									Documents renumbered and moved to 1839/040a	1839/055

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Lovelace	Charles	Savage	William	15	05	1839	Petty trespass	Pt	Lovlace, a tailor, complained that Savage, a labourer working on a drain in Sadler Street, had thrown a shovel full of earth at his window and had broken two panes of glass. Savage had then refused to pay to repair the damage.	1839/056
[Secretary of War]		[Justices]		15	05	1839	Magistrates fees	*	L Sullivan on behalf of the Secretary of War notified the magistrates that no fees were chargeable by borough magistrates for activities associated with the Army and Navy, and specifically not for the attestation of recruits. These provisions did not apply to county magistrates.	1839/057
Phelps	James	Gibbons	William	15	05	1839	Theft of silver spoons	T	PC Buck had arrested Gibbons on suspicion of theft when he found two silver spoons on him. However, there was no evident owner of the spoons, so Gibbons was released. Only around 10 weeks later did Buck become aware that Phelps, the licensee of the Sherston Arms, was reporting missing silver spoons. Gibbons was arrested again. The case was dismissed.	1839/058
Gully	Sarah	White jnr	William	21	05	1839	Sexual assault	Sa	Sarah Gully, wife of John Gully, a labourer, claimed that William White the younger, also described as a labourer, had assaulted her by grabbing her around the waist and pulling up her clothes so that she was indecently exposed.	1839/059
Foster	George	Taylor	Robert	24	05	1839	Assault	A	Foster claimed that Taylor had assaulted him. The case was described as settled.	1839/060
Coles	George	Dix Russell Foster Sparrow Hopkins	James John Joseph Henry William	28	05	1839	Wilful damage to a carriage	Wd	Coles, a labourer, claimed that a carriage owned by him and with a value estimated (by him) of £1 had been deliberately pushed into the river in Southover and extensively damaged by a group comprising Dix, a carpenter; Russell, a carpenter; Foster, a glazier; Sparrow, a tailor and Hopkins, a broker. Witness statements from Louise Mayger and Jane Allen, both single women, implicated only Dix and Sparrow. Testimony from James Phelps, an innholder in Southover, on whose premises the carriage had stood for several weeks in the open, was sceptical of the value of the carriage and assessed the cost of fixing it at no more than 5/-.	1839/061
Beard	Eliza	Langmead	James	28	05	1839	Non-payment of wages	N	Eliza Beard claimed that Langmead, described as a labourer, had refused to pay her £1.9s.0d owed to her in wages.	1839/062

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
				DD	MM	YYYY				
Chamberlain	Sarah	Chamberlain jnr	William	31	05	1839	Assault	A	Sarah Chamberlain complained that her husband, William, had assaulted her, striking her several times about the head and face with his fists. Chamberlain was fined 5/- with costs of 10/-, but appears to have been in default and was committed to gaol for one month.	1839/063
Buck Dudderidge	Abraham George Webb	Griffiths Boxall	Charles Henry John	31	05	1839	Vagrancy	V	PC Buck apprehended Griffiths, said to be a common and reputed thief, on a charge of vagrancy and a suspicion that he was planning to commit a felony. At the time of his arrest he had on his person a dangerous weapon known as a life preserver, a file, some base coin and an implement to enable him to produce base coin. At a similar time PC Dudderidge arrested John Boxall on the same charges. Again, Boxall was described as a common and reputed thief. Boxall and Griffiths had been seen together in the streets of Wells and had with them John Bright who had just been committed for passing base coin and Emma Pearce who had just been released from gaol in Shepton Mallet where she had been serving a sentence for a felony.	1839/064
Hopkins	William	Yerbery	James	03	06	1839	Detaining a carriage	T	Hopkins, a cabinet maker, complained that Yerbery, a coachmaker, was detaining a four-wheeled carriage belonging to him and refusing to release it. The case was dismissed.	1839/065
Harris	Frances	Clarke	Sarah	04	06	1839	Assault	A	Frances Harris, wife of John Harris, brushmaker, complained that Sarah Clarke, wife of John Clarke, sawyer, had assaulted her by pushing her fists into Harris's face after they had had a dispute. A witness statement by Elizabeth Loxton stated that Sarah Clarke was not guilty of the accusation. The case was dismissed as neither party appeared at the hearing.	1839/066
Beauchamp	???	Brookes	Peter	04	06	1839	Theft of household goods	T	Brookes admitted the theft of some old brass from Beauchamp's house, claiming that it was a spur of the moment decision to take it. There is minimal information on this case since the only document is a brief statement from Brookes.	1839/067

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Hopkins	Sarah	Boyce	Richard	11	06	1839	Assault	A	Sarah Hopkins, wife of James Hopkins, salesman, complained that she had been assaulted by Boyce, a victualler, who had put one hand on her arm and pushed his other fist into her face. Boyce admitted the assault and was fined 5/6d with costs of 4/6d; the fine was recorded as being paid.	1839/068
Brown	Ann	Norris	Eliza	11	06	1839	Assault	A	Ann Brown, wife of John Brown, brushmaker, had gone to Mary Thyer's house and found Eliza Norris there, the wife of William Norris, postboy. Brown challenged Norris to explain what she had been saying about her (Brown), at which point Norris had supposedly flown at her, struck her in the face and tore her bonnet and cap. The case was dismissed and each side was required to pay their own costs. The documentation is confusing, since Mary Thyer's statement seems to show Ann Brown as the aggressor, while Ann Brown and Joseph Toomer each signed the wrong witness statement.	1849/069
Fry	Joseph	Dudderidge	James	15	06	1839	Assault	A	Fry, a labourer, claimed that Dudderidge, a plaisterer, had struck him in the face. The case was dismissed as neither party appeared at the hearing..	1839/070
Cox	Elizabeth	Guppy	Edmund	24	06	1839	Assault	A	Elizabeth Cox, wife of George Cox, butcher, had gone to Mrs Jones in East Wells to borrow a half peck measure. Mrs Jones said that she was welcome to borrow it, but Edmund Guppy had it and Elizabeth Cox could get it from him. Guppy refused to let her have the measure and when she tried to take it from him, he allegedly grabbed her by the throat and struck her in the face. The case was dismissed with Mrs Cox having to pay 1/- more (she had presumably already paid the basic fee of 4/6d) to cover expenses.	1839/071
Wheeler	William	Cook	Charles Henry	29	06	1839	Fraud	Fr	Wheeler, a dissenting minister, claimed that Cook had come to his house in the Liberty of St Andrew and presented him with a begging petition which was manifestly false. Wheeler claimed to be familiar with Cook's handwriting on a letter purportedly from someone else.	1839/072

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Parfitt	Peter Lewis	Howell	James	07	07	1839	Assault	A	Rev. Parfitt complained that Howell, a labourer, had deliberately thrown a piece of mortar at his son, Peter Edward Parfitt and the mortar had struck his son in the back. The incident was witnessed by James Oxley, a labourer. Howell was convicted of the offence and fined 1/- with costs of 7/6d or to serve 14 days in prison; the fine was recorded as paid.	1839/073
Willy	James	Wills	Mrs	08	07	1839	Trespass	Pt	Willy, a farmer and carrier, claimed that Wills, the wife of Thomas Wills, a labourer, had deliberately removed a quantity of thorns and other sticks from a hedge belonging to him. He claimed that he had put them there specifically to cover a gap that she had previously created. The case was dismissed.	1839/074
Mogford	Thomas	Seale	Francis	17	07	1839	Assault	A	Mogford, a gardener, complained that he had been assaulted and knocked down by Seale, a labourer. Seale admitted the charge and was fined 1/- with costs of 7/6d or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison; the fine was recorded as paid.	1839/075
Corde	George	Lawrence	William	20	07	1839	Assault	A	Corde, a drover from the parish of Rodney Stoke, complained that he had been assaulted and struck in the face and ribs by Lawrence, a butcher. The case was settled out of court.	1839/076
Somers	Samuel	Radnidge Tucker Perrin	Charlotte Mary Caroline	02	08	1839	Riotous and indecent behaviour	Dp	PC Somers charged the defendants, who he described as common prostitutes, with riotous and indecent behaviour in East Wells. The case header document simply gives the word 'Committed' as the outcome.	1839/077
York	Mary Ann	Cardwell	Ann	03	08	1839	Assault	A	Mary Ann York, a single woman, claimed that Ann Cardwell, wife of Joseph Cardwell, mason, had assaulted her, beaten her about the head and pulled her hair. The case was dismissed.	1839/078
Hearne	Michael	Howlett	Joseph	05	08	1839	Assault	A	Hearne, a brushmaker, claimed that Howlett had knocked him down and struck him several times in the face. Howlett was fined 2/6d with costs of 9/6d or, if in default, to serve one month in prison; the fine was recorded as paid.	1839/079

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Rogers	Jacob	Lacey	Charles	14	08	1839	Assault	A	Rogers complained that he had been assaulted by Lacey. The defendant was found guilty and fined 5/- plus an unspecified amount for costs. The fine was recorded as paid. There is no documentation for this case. The information is contained in a list of fines and penalties covering the period January 1839 to March 1840. See reference 1840/025a.	1839/079a
Bendall	Mary	Bendall Bendall	George Mary Ann	20	08	1839	Assault	A	Mary Bendall, a single woman, claimed that she had been assaulted by George Bendall, a coalowner, and his wife, Mary Ann, who had both struck her on the head, back and face. The case was dismissed.	1839/080
Lukins Snow	Joseph William Henry	Wall Wall	John Ann	24	08	1839	Vagrancy	V	Lukins, a painter working in Vicar's Close, claimed that the defendants came to Mr Pulsford's house where he was working seeking alms. He told them that the family was not at home and they responded in very coarse and gross language. Snow stated that the defendants had come to his father's house, offered to sell matches and windmills and then begged him for bread or small change; he sent them away. John Wall was sentenced to 14 days in prison in Shepton Mallet; there was no information about Ann Wall.	1839/081
Phillips	Sarah	Johnson	Elizabeth	24	08	1839	Assault	A	Sarah Phillips, wife of Henry Phillips, brushmaker, complained that she had been assaulted by Elizabeth Johnson, the wife of Matthew Johnson, also a brush maker. Phillips claimed that Johnson had thrown tobacco pipes at her which hit her in the face and then had thrown a glass of beer at her. The case was settled out of court.	1839/082
Hamblyn	William	White	William	27	08	1839	Assault	A	Hamblyn, a butcher, complained that White, also a butcher, had assaulted him. The case was settled out of court.	1839/083
Tucker	William	Porter Barber	Thomas George	30	08	1839	Theft of apples	T	John Sweet, an employee of William Tucker, had gone to Tucker's orchard to collect a horse when he saw two people climb out of an apple tree and run away. He supposedly recognised one of them as Thomas Porter, but did not know the other. Elizabeth Burt, a single woman, stated that Porter was in her company at the time he was supposedly seen by Sweet. The case was dismissed because of insufficient evidence.	1839/084

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Secretary of State for War		Justices		30	08	1839	Fees on attesting recruits	*	Advice from Whitehall that the clerk to the justices would be entitled to claim fees for the attestation of recruits and the committal of deserters. It seems that such fees had been withdrawn and the Secretary at War had complained that the result had been prejudicial to the public service.	1839/085
[Justices]		Overseers of the Poor		02	09	1839	Survey of insane pauper inmates	*	A request from the justices for a detailed list of all insane pauper inmates, together with information on each. This was apparently intended to furnish information regarding the need for lunatic asylums. The documentation also includes information about the lunatic asylum at Fiddington House near Devizes.	1839/086
Buck	Abraham	Lilly	Eliza	05	09	1839	Hawking fruit	Um	PC Buck charged Eliza Tilly, a single woman, with hawking fruit about the streets, rather than selling it through public markets as required by law.	1839/087
[Justices]		Mogford	Mrs	05	09	1839	Hawking vegetables	Um	The wife of Thomas Mogford, gardener, was summoned before the court on a charge of hawking vegetables in the streets instead of selling them in a public market.	1839/088
[Justices]		Loxton	Mary	05	09	1839	Hawking vegetables	Um	The wife of John Loxton, labourer, was summoned before the court on a charge of hawking vegetables in the streets instead of selling them in a public market. The back of the summons has a reference to a payment of 6d per quarter, but it is not clear what it refers to.	1839/089
[Justices]		Dominey	Mary	05	09	1839	Hawking vegetables	Um	Mary Dominey, a single woman, was summoned before the court on a charge of hawking vegetables in the streets instead of selling them in a public market. The back of the summons has a reference to a payment of 6d per quarter, but it is not clear what it refers to.	1839/090
Francis	John	Hawker	Joseph	06	09	1839	Assault	A	Francis, a colt breaker, claimed that he had been assaulted and injured by Hawker, a butcher, upsetting a butcher's block onto his foot. The case was dismissed.	1839/091
[Justices]		Jenkins snr	James	09	09	1839	Drunkenness	D	Jenkins, a plaisterer, was summoned before the court for being drunk and disorderly in a public thoroughfare. He was fined 5/- or to spend 6 hours in the stocks.	1839/092
Mullins	Charles	Mullins	Mary	10	09	1839	Deliberately breaking windows	Pt	Charles Mullins complained that Mary Mullins, widow, had deliberately broken two panes of glass in a property that belonged to him. Neither party appeared at the hearing so the case was dismissed.	1839/093

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Dudderidge	George Webb	Hockey	William	16	09	1839	Hawking meat	Um	Hockey, a butcher from Westbury, was charged with exposing meat for sale from his cart in Portway, a location not licensed for market trading. According to PC Dudderidge, Hockey was frequently attempting to sell meat in this way. Hockey was fined 10/-, including costs. According to an official return Hockey paid the fine imposed.	1839/094
[Justices]		Miles	William	20	09	1839	Hawking fish	Um	Miles, a fishmonger, was charged with exposing fish for sale in a location not licensed for market trading.	1839/095
Dudderidge	George Webb	Brook	John	23	09	1839	Assault	A	PCs Dudderidge and Willis came across a drunken Brook acting in a disorderly manner in a public place. Brook saw the officers and immediately wanted to fight them. They decided to arrest him, but Brook resisted and attempted to assault them both. Brook was charged with assault and fined 2/6d with costs of 7/6d or, if in default, to serve 1 calendar month with hard labour in prison at Shepton Mallet. According to an official return Brook paid the fine imposed.	1839/096
Norris	Thomas Gilbert	Little	John	24	09	1839	Stealing apples	T	John Little, a labourer, was accused of stealing 3 pecks of apples from an orchard belonging to Norris. Despite testimony from Charlotte Harper and Ann Williams which may have cast some doubt on his involvement, Little was convicted on the evidence of William Binning who claimed to have caught Little in the act of stealing the apples and to have talked to him for several minutes, stating that the night was sufficiently light to enable him to get a clear view of Little's features. Little was summarily convicted and sentenced to 3 months hard labour in prison at Shepton Mallet. Note: Little's forename is given as John in most documents, but the voluntary statement refers to Hugh Little.	1839/097

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Surname	Forename	Surname	Forename	Initiated			Description	Type	Notes	Ref. No.
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Wills	Mary	Wills	Thomas	26	09	1839	Assault	A	Mary Wills claimed that her husband, Thomas, had come home to their house in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, pulled her out of bed and beat her violently about the head. Although she was pregnant, he had subsequently thrown a dish at her and misused her. She feared that he would do her further injury. Thomas Wills was convicted of assault and fined 20/- with costs of 7/6d to be paid immediately; if in default, he would be sentenced to 6 weeks imprisonment at Shepton Mallet. Thomas Wills appeared not to have paid the fine and was committed to prison.	1839/098
[Justices]		Cox	Susannah	27	09	1839	Hawking meat	Um	Susannah Cox, a widow, was brought before the court charged with hawking meat in locations unlicensed for market trading. The case was said to be settled.	1839/099
Harris	Samuel	Johnson	Robert	27	09	1839	Desertion from army	M	Corporal Harris of 36th Regiment of Foot had identified Johnson as a deserter from the 75th Regiment of Foot and apprehended him. Johnson was aged 19, and had enlisted around 12 months previously at Roscommon in Ireland. He was described as being around 5'5" with a fair complexion, gold brown hair, grey eyes and a musket shot scar on his left cheek.	1839/100
Dudderidge	George Webb	Milton	William	30	09	1839	Hawking meat	Um	PC Dudderidge charged Milton, a butcher from Westbury, with hawking meat from his cart, going from door to door in Southover instead of selling meat in a location licensed for market trading. Milton was convicted and fined 10/-. According to an official return Milton paid the fine imposed.	1839/101
Fowles	William Henry	Bartlett snr	Joseph	30	09	1839	Assault	A	Fowles, a schoolmaster, who described himself as also being Surveyor of Highways, had gone to see Bartlett, a yeoman with premises in Tucker Street, to establish why he had removed some road earth from the side of the road near Portway without any authority to do so. Bartlett had apparently ordered Fowles out of the yard and as he was going out Bartlett snr had allegedly kicked him several times and Bartlett jnr had assisted his father in turfing Fowles out of the yard. Bartlett snr was fined 2/6d with costs of 7/6d. Bartlett appears to have paid the fine.	1839/102

Plaintiff		Defendant		Date Case			Crime/accusation		Document	
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Gunn	Ann	Abbott	William	01	10	1839	Theft	T	Ann Gunn claimed that Abbott had stolen various articles belonging to her in Shepton Mallet. Abbott was committed to gaol until the next meeting of the General Quarter Sessions where he would be tried.	1839/103
[Justices]		Hylear	Charles	02	10	1839	Vagrancy	V	Hylear evidently had a begging petition soliciting people to give him money for an injury that he had supposedly suffered on his first day of working on GWR. He had presumably been arrested for begging and the magistrates had asked for a doctor's examination. The check, carried out by Henry Bernard, suggested that Hylear had a rupture on his right side and that this could be alleviated by having a new truss that would enable him to resume work.	1839/104
Dudderidge	George Webb	Sheppard	William	08	10	1839	Opening outside statutory licensing hours	L	PC Dudderidge charged Sheppard, a beerhouse keeper in East Wells, with opening his premises for the sale of beer and cider before the statutory opening hours on Sunday lunchtime, i.e. the premises were open and there was beer on the table at 12.15pm when the official opening hour was 1.00pm. Sheppard was fined 40/-, including costs of 10/-; the fine was recorded as paid.	1839/105
Willis	Thomas	Wickham	John	08	10	1839	Opening outside statutory licensing hours	L	PC Willis charged Wickham, a beerhouse keeper in the Out Parish of St Cuthbert, with opening his premises after the statutory closing hour of 9.00pm on Sunday evening. Wickham was fined 40/-, including costs of 10/-; the fine was recorded as paid.	1839/106
Willis	Thomas	Phelps	James	08	10	1839	Opening outside statutory licensing hours	L	PC Willis charged Phelps, an alehouse keeper running the Sherston Arms, with opening his premises during the hours of divine service on a Sunday afternoon. Phelps was fined £5, but this was mitigated to £2, including costs of 10/-. Phelps was recorded as paying the fine.	1839/107
Bennett	Elizabeth	Chippett	Sarah	12	10	1839	Assault	A	Elizabeth Bennett, wife of Pharo Bennett, labourer, claimed that Sarah Chippett, wife of John Chippett, also a labourer, had thrown hot water over her in the passageway between their two properties and had scalded her arm. The case was said to be compromised, i.e. settled without a hearing.	1839/108

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Spencer	Richard	Masters	Job	26	10	1839	Assault	A	Spencer, a butcher from Wookey, was walking home from Wells, together with John Mitchell, when Masters overtook them at a run in Portway, hitting Spencer with a stick as he did so, then turning and striking Spencer several times more. Spencer managed to get hold of his companion's stick, but Masters knocked it out of his hand and proceeded to harass them all the way to Wookey. Spencer claimed that he had offered no provocation and had never even met Masters before. Masters was fined 3/6d with costs of 11/6d; the fine was recorded as paid.	1839/109
Isgar	Caroline	Bartlett jnr	Emanuel	26	10	1839	Assault	A	Caroline Isgar complained that Emanuel Bartlett jnr had assaulted her with a stick and had struck her several times.	1839/110
Parfitt	Samuel	Parfitt	Thomas	01	11	1839	Theft of clothes	T	Samuel Parfitt, a baker, lodged with Mrs Chapman and his brother, Thomas, had stayed the night with him. Samuel had left for work the next morning with his brother still in the room. Samuel was then advised by Mrs Chapman's servant girl that Thomas had broken into his box in the room. Samuel had found that the box had indeed been broken into and a black coat, a pair of black trousers and a waistcoat were missing. A warrant for Thomas Parfitt's arrest was issued.	1839/111
Buck	Abraham	Smith	Thomas	04	11	1839	Vagrancy	V	PC Buck charged Smith with vagrancy, stating that he was a noted conman and thief, and was known to be a member of a gang of pickpockets and thieves. Buck offered the view that Smith was spending time in East Wells for the purpose of committing a felony at the market.	1839/112
Dudderidge	George Webb	Barker	Sarah	04	11	1839	Vagrancy	V	PC Dudderidge charged Barker with vagrancy, stating that she was a noted thief. She was also known to be connected with a large gang of thieves and pickpockets. She was spending a good deal of time in East Wells with the probable intent of committing a felony at the market. When Barker was apprehended she gave a signal to other members of the gang and, on receiving the signal, they all left the city.	1839/113

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Edghill	Robert	Earl Axford Slater	Frederick John John	05	11	1839	Trespass	Pt	Edghill, a plaisterer, complained that Earl, Axford and Slater had been illegally trespassing on land of Robert Clement Tudway in the occupation of Charles Berryman in the search for game and for conies. When Edghill approached Slater and searched him, he found a ferret and a series of nets, clear evidence of an intent to poach. Each of the defendants was said to forfeit the sum of two pounds.	1839/114
Hale	George	Bailey	William	05	11	1839	Assault	A	Hale, a blacksmith, complained that Bailey, a waggoner, had assaulted him and struck him a blow in the face. Bailey was convicted and fined 2/6d with costs of 7/6d, all to be paid immediately or, if in default, to serve 14 days in prison. The fine was recorded as paid.	1839/115
Millard	William	Surbutt jnr Creedy Clements	James Ann Charlotte	11	11	1839	Petty trespass	Pt	Millard, a labourer, complained that Surbutt, a labourer, together with Creedy and Clements, both single women, had deliberately damaged a hedge and some vegetables growing in a garden in Southover belonging to Millard. The damage was estimated at three shillings. The case was settled without a hearing.	1839/116
Millard	William	Surbutt jnr	James	11	11	1839	Assault	A	Millard, a labourer, complained that Surbutt, also a labourer, had assaulted him and struck him a blow in the face. The case was settled without a hearing.	1839/117
Parsons	Joseph	Mogg	James	12	11	1839	Non-completion of work	Nc	Parsons, a brush manufacturer and patten maker, claimed that Mogg, a journeyman brushmaker, had left Parsons' employ without consent and without completing the work for which he was responsible.	1839/118
Parsons	Joseph	Flood	Robert	13	11	1839	Absentee apprentice	Ab	Parsons, a brush manufacturer, complained that Flood, who had been indentured to him in late 1835 had left his employ without consent and had not returned. When Flood did re-appear, he was sent to prison for two weeks for correction, i.e. he would be whipped.	1839/119
Maul	William	Bartlett	Benjamin	19	11	1839	Assault	A	Maul, a labourer, complained that Bartlett, a yeoman, had knocked him to the ground and kicked him while he was down. The case was settled without a hearing.	1839/120
Maher	John	Cottle	William	23	11	1839	Assault	A	Maher, a victualler, claimed that Cottle, a labourer, had assaulted him and struck him in the face.	1839/121

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Parsons	Joseph	Dowdney	William	27	11	1839	Theft of stockings and worsted	T	Parsons claimed that Dowdney, his servant, had stolen a pair of stockings and 8oz of worsted. Dowdney was remanded in custody until the next General Quarter Sessions.	1839/122
Dean & Chapter		Carter Small	William Alfred	28	11	1839	Breaking windows	Pt	The Dean & Chapter of Wells claimed that Carter, son of James Carter, and Small, son of John Small, had deliberately broken two windows on property belonging to the Cathedral.	1839/123
Secretary of State for War		[Justices]		30	11	1839	Procedures re deserters	*	Response from Secretary of State for War to the clerk to the justices setting out procedures to be adopted by the clerk and monies due to the clerk for dealing with deserters from the armed forces. See also 1839/085.	1839/124
Armstrong	Charles	Chamberlain jnr	William	23	12	1839	Assault	A	Armstrong, a tailor, complained that Chamberlain, who lodged, together with his wife and infant child, with Armstrong's mother, Sarah, in Tucker Street, had come and struck at his wife, although the blow missed. He had then hit her in the face with a candlestick, but was then restrained from further violence by Armstrong who first wrestled him to the floor and then got him out of the house. Armstrong then left the house for a short period, but when he returned Chamberlain had got back into the house and immediately jumped up and struck Armstrong in the face. Chamberlain was convicted and fined £5, to be paid immediately, or, if in default, to serve 2 months in prison at Shepton Mallet. According to an official list of fines and penalties, Chamberlain did not pay the fine and was committed to gaol.	1839/125