

Charge of Damaging Underwood

County Petty Sessions

A respectably dressed man named Alfred Newson, a carpenter and wheelwright, at Broughton, was summoned for damaging underwood, the property of Miss Everard, on Sunday, the 20th of August last.

The defendant admitted being on Miss Everard's grounds, but said he was merely taking a walk, and a friend who was with him said as they were passing Miss Everard's grounds, "We'll see if we can get a nut." He had merely picked five nuts, when a servant of Miss Everard's came up and told them they were doing wrong. They thereupon immediately desisted, begged pardon, and went away. "Like an Englishman," too, he wrote to Miss Everard, apologising for what he had done.

He denied in the most emphatic manner that he broke a single branch or damaged the underwood in the slightest manner. Bevis, the defendant's companion, had been previously summoned and fined 20s. and costs, and Lord Folkestone said the Bench could not do otherwise than impose a similar penalty in this case. He must also pay 3d., the amount of damage done, and in default of payment he must go to gaol for a month. The fine and costs, amounting to 18s. 3d, were at once paid.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 10 October 1868

©Wiltshire OPC Project/2015/Maureen Withey