

Pigs Stolen at Night

During the night of Monday, the 12th inst., Mr. James Sheppard and Mr. Edwin Dibben, farmers of Bishopstone, were robbed of some pigs from their farm-yards – the former of two, and the latter of six.

We are happy, however, to be able to state, that they have since been recovered, and that the thief was on Wednesday last committed for trial at the adjourned sessions to be held at Devizes on the 20th inst. It appeared that on the morning of Tuesday, the 13th inst., between two and three o'clock, the prisoner, who gave his name as William Lane, of Lavington, was seen driving eight pigs through North Street, Wilton, by police constable James Galsworthy, who was on duty there. Galsworthy very properly stopped him, and questioned him as to where he was going at that unusual hour with the pigs. The prisoner did not answer satisfactorily, and was thereupon taken into custody, and the pigs were placed in the pound until they were identified by Mr. Sheppard and Mr. Dibben's servants, who missed them from their masters' yards the same morning, having seen them all right the night before.

Mr. Dibben, on the same night that his pigs were stolen, also had a lamb stolen from Down Barn, which has not since been heard of.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 17 February 1849

©Wiltshire OPC Project/2017/Maureen Withey