

Assault & Robbery on the Shrewsbury Canal

At the Shropshire Quarter sessions William Willday and John Morris were charged with assault and robbery of David Davies of Upton under Haughmond near Shrewsbury. Willday was the Captain, Morris the navigator, and Davies a passenger on a canal boat owned by Messrs Pickford & Co. The offence occurred whilst the boat was proceeding from the Castle Foregate wharf at Shrewsbury towards Uffington during the hours of darkness. As the boat approached a tunnel on the canal it met a coal boat crewed by witnesses Messrs Wycherley and Peplow. The manacled passenger Davies screamed for help and was freed when the boat was eventually boarded. Both the accused were sentenced to fourteen years transportation.

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