

GLOUCESTER CHRONICLE

15 March 1834

On Thursday, a serious accident occurred on the Avon, near to the town of Tewkesbury, to a boatman named **Powney**, who in reaching a gun from the cabin of his boat with the intention of shooting at some wild ducks, incautiously laid hold of the muzzle, when the gun, into which he had put three of the customary charges of shot, went off, and the contents passed through his arm, near the elbow joint ; he was immediately conveyed to the house of a medical gentleman, who succeeded in stopping the haemorrhage, and kindly accompanied the poor fellow to our Infirmary, where, upon examination, so much injury was discovered as to render amputation necessary, which was immediately performed and, we are happy to add, with every prospect of his doing well.

20 December 1834

HYDROPHOBIA An excellent draft horse belonging to **John Morgan**, boatman, Cyfarthfa, was bit about two months ago by a dog in a rabid state. The poison continued for some weeks latent, but on Thursday in last week, the poor animal was seized with the usual dreadful symptoms, and began pawing the earth, which he scratched up violently and scattered in all directions. On his master venturing to approach him, the horse rushed at him with terrible fury, and Morgan only secured his safety by running hastily away and jumping into the canal. The poor animal was afterwards shot.

5 August 1871

John Ryland, a youth half clad, had been found at midnight carrying a bundle of wet clothes, and was brought up on suspicion. He said he was a boatman going from Stroud to Wolverhampton, and that the bundle had fallen into the water. The magistrates, believing his story, discharged him, though they said the police had been right in detaining him.

30 December 1871

City Petty Sessions

YOUNG THIEVES Edward Pratt, 17, George Russell, 17, and John Russell, 13, employed at the docks, were charged with stealing 1 1/2 lb ham and 3/4 lb sugar, value 1s, belonging to **Charles Sadler**, a boatman in the employ of Messrs Danks and Co, Carriers. They pleaded guilty, and were sentenced, the two former to fourteen days imprisonment, the latter to seven days imprisonment and to receive twelve strokes with a birch rod.

11 March 1871

City Petty Sessions

Thomas Keeling, a youth, a boatman, who had been found at the Docks at midnight drunk and swearing, was cautioned and discharged.

2 September 1871

City Petty Sessions

TRYING TO HANG HIMSELF On Friday, **Samuel Lee**, boatman and landlord of the Colliers' Arms, an elderly man, was charged with trying to hang himself. His grandson, a boy, then told that Lee and his wife returned home on the previous night and had a quarrel, and that Lee thereupon said that he wouldn't come home any more, and went and tied himself by an old silk handkerchief to a beam six foot high. The boy cut him down, and fetched an uncle, to whom Lee promised that he would act so no more. The uncle fetched Sergeant Piff from Westgate Street at half past ten, and the sergeant went to the place at once and found man and wife very drunk. Lee was asked on Friday what was his explanation. He answered that he had backed a bill for £200 for a brother-in-law, and that the matter caused a quarrel between himself and his wife ; she was spoken of as being then in bed ; and the case was adjourned that she might attend. Mr Griffin now said that he had had conversation with Lee since Friday, and that the man seemed penitent ; and he did, in fact, make promise that he would not again seek to act so rashly. His wife also attended, and denied that she was drunk as alleged on Friday. But Sergeant Piff said he was certain she was drunk, and the magistrates severely commented upon her conduct. Lee was bound over in the sum of £20, and to find two sureties of £10 each.