

Assize Roll of Labor Offenders

The following is a record of the jury trial that decided cases of citizens who disobeyed labor laws presented in the statute of laborers.

Wiltshire, England June 11, 1352

John Boltash, a **carter** (one who carried heavy goods in a two-wheeled cart led by a mule or oxen) from Elingdon, pleads guilty for accepting compensation of two **bushels** (a unit of measure that amounts to 35 liters or 2150 cubic inches) of wheat per quarter of grain for ten weeks for the work he had done. Where as is previous payment was one bushel of wheat per quarter for eleven weeks.

Richard the **Cobbler** (a person who mends shoes) of Clack Mountain, says that he worked in accordance with the **statute** (an established law or rule made by a ruler), however he accepted an extra 40 **pence** (used to refer to a sum of money than to the coins themselves) from various men for shoes sold by him contrary to the statute and his **oath** (a statement or promise). Richard was arrested and brought before the justices as well charged with **contempt** (an act showing disobedience or disrespect for the rule of court). He was also fined two marks (26 shillings and 8 pence).

Edith Paiers, Alice Dounames, Edith Lange, and Isabel Purs of Clyffe Pypard took and extra six pence last autumn from various men for **reaping** (to cut or harvest a crop) corn into **sheaves** (a way of binding crops into units). They are let out on bail and fined six pence each.

Thomas, formerly the servant of Ralph de Chusleden, left Ralph's service without reasonable cause before the end of the term they agreed upon and refused to serve anymore contrary to statute. Thomas did not appear before the justices. According to the bailiff, he cannot be found. He is to be arrested and brought to the next session.