

REFERENCES TO TANSLEY IN DERBYSHIRE TIMES - 1907
 (From microfilm in Local Studies Library, County Offices, Matlock)
 Transcribed (unverified) by Bob Lake 2000 - 2008

DATE	PAGE	REPORT
5 Jan 1907	3	<p align="center">THE TANSLEY CRIMEAN VETERAN.</p> <p>We are indebted to Councillor W Clarke Taylor, of Tansley, for the subjoined photograph, taken by Mr Statham, of Matlock, of the late Mr Samuel Twigg, the Crimean Veteran, of Tansley, near Matlock, whose funeral and military experiences were exclusively reported in these columns last week. It is not generally known that the deceased veteran's father fought at Waterloo. [Photo]</p>
2 February 1907		<p align="center">Brevities. TANSLEY.</p> <p>John Smith, labourer, Tansley, was at Matlock on Wednesday summoned for using indecent language at Matlock Cliff on the 2nd inst. P.c.Webster and Samuel Critchlow stated defendant kicked the policeman's dog, and used very bad language. – Supt. Richardson handed in a list of previous convictions, and Smith was fined and 11s 6d costs.</p>
16 February 1907	3	<p align="center">BREWSTER SESSIONS. MATLOCK'S CONVICTIONS. Important Warning by the Bench. Matlock, Two Dales, Bonsall and Tansley Houses Affected.</p> <p>..... In directing objection to the renewal of the licenses of the six houses, they wanted it to be understood that they did not thereby consider all the remaining houses necessary. They had only dealt in a limited manner with a portion of the district, and they held themselves free to deal with the matter further at a future time. All the other licenses were renewed except the Gate Inn, Tansley, which they would consider later.</p>
2 March 1907	9	<p align="center">SERIOUS ACCIDENT AT TANSLEY. Man Falls 30 feet.</p> <p>Whilst following his usual work as a rockman at Wragg's quarry, Tansley, on Thursday afternoon, George Twigg, a single man, of the same village, fell down the quarry, a distance of about 30 feet, and sustained a dislocated shoulder and a compound fracture of the thigh. The rector (the Rev.J.B.Brodie Mais) cycled to the Town Hall, Matlock, to fetch a stretcher, and the unfortunate man was conveyed to the Whitworth Hospital, where he lies in a critical condition.</p>
6 April 1907		<p align="center">Brevities. TANSLEY.</p> <p>At Matlock on Tuesday, John Berresford, a Tansley stone cutter, was fined 2s 6d and costs (9s in all) for being drunk in Dale Road, Matlock, on April 1st. – P.c. Webster stated the facts.</p>

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11 May 1907

**Brevities
 TANSLEY.**

At Matlock on Wednesday, Samuel Reed [?], of Tansley, labourer, was fined 5s and costs[?]....for being drunk and disorderly in ...[?].... Road, on the 24th April. - P.c. Webster stated the facts.

18 May 1907

**Gleanings in the Peak.
 and West Derbyshire.**

On Monday the interment took place in Tansley Churchyard of the late Mr Adam Woodhouse, who resided in the Lumsdale. Deceased was a mason by trade, but for the last four years had been unable to follow his occupation. He was 43 years of age, and his death took place on Wednesday last week. He leaves a widow and six children. A number of representatives of the Tansley Lodge of Oddfellows joined the funeral procession as it entered the village of Tansley, deceased having been a member of the order, and at the close of the committal service at the graveside, which was conducted by the Rev. James Burton, they read their customary service.

28 July 1907

8

GLEANINGS IN THE PEAK

Mr James Howard Scholes, proprietor of Tansley Mill, has presented to Tansley Church a solid silver communion service and erected a tablet in memory of Mrs Scholes.

10 August 1907

5

**TANSLEY VISITORS.
 PLIGHT.**

**Alleged Assault on a Lonely Road.
 Labourer's Serious Position.**

At the Matlock Police Court, before Dr W. Moxon and Mr H. G. Hartley, on Wednesday, Job Ashton (24), labourer of Portland Grange, Matlock Moor, was brought up in custody on a charge of assaulting on Saturday night last at Tansley Miss Gladys Bartlett Marshall (Manchester), who was on a visit to her father at Canada Farm, Lea.

Prosecutrix said she was in a situation at Manchester, and resided at 30, Cornbrook Grove, Old Trafford. On the night in question she had been to see a friend off at Matlock station. She returned from the station about eight-thirty, and arrived in Tansley about a quarter to ten. Having just passed the George and Dragon Inn, she saw prisoner on the opposite side of the road, and he followed her for a quarter of a mile, when he remarked "Its a lovely night." Witness replied "Yes it is." Later on prisoner said "It is lonely," and she said "It is very hilly." Prisoner said nothing more. When she had just passed the house occupied by Mr Bunting prisoner reeled on

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one side and came towards her. He made a remark, and she became frightened and ran down the hill towards Mr Bunting's house. Prisoner ran after her, and caught her against a field gate, which she tried to get through, but it was locked. Prisoner then caught hold of her by the right arm and knocked her down onto some stones. She screamed, and prisoner put his fingers into her mouth and had his thumb pressing against her wind-pipe to stop her from screaming. He knocked two teeth out of her lower jaw, and her false teeth out of her upper jaw. She struggled with prisoner, but he got the upper hand of her, and assaulted her. He bruised her on her arm and breast. She heard Mr Bunting's house door open, and prisoner then made off. Mr Bunting came up to her, and found her nose and mouth bleeding. He asked her what was the matter, and on her telling him he helped her into his house. Several men came up before she got into Mr Bunting's house, but she said nothing to them. Witness complained to her father of having been assaulted, but she did not tell him the whole details until the next morning. Witness saw prisoner on Sunday morning at the Police Station, whom she identified amongst four other men.

Prisoner: What time did you see me against the railings? –
About a quarter to ten.

Prisoner: I beg your pardon. I was inside at that time.

Wm. Bunting, a Tansley quarryman, said about a quarter to ten on Saturday night last he heard screams while he lay in bed. Witness got up, dressed, and went out to see what was the matter. He found a young lady kneeling in the middle of the road about ten yards from his house. She then rolled over and appeared to be in an exhausted condition. He asked her what was the matter, and she said she had been attacked by a man. Witness then assisted her to his house. Witness saw Isaac Carter and Reuben Dennis arrive on the scene about the same time as he did. Dennis picked up a locket and handed it to the young lady, who afterwards complained she had lost a chain, which was subsequently found. Later, witness, along with her father, took Miss Marshall home.

Answering Dr. Moxon, witness said he saw no blood about, though his niece said she did.

Isaac Carter of Yew Tree Farm, Tansley, a carter, said shortly after ten o'clock he heard a loud scream near Heather Lea House whilst in company with Reuben Dennis. Later he heard a muffled scream, and a lady calling out "Help!" He ran in the direction of the house and shouted "What's the matter?" A little below Mr Bunting's gate he saw a woman in a sitting position on the road in an exhausted condition. Dennis struck a match to see who the young lady was, and witness recognised her as Miss Marshall, who said she had been attacked by a man, and asked him and Dennis to

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go after him. Witness saw the young lady's false teeth in the road, also a gold locket, hairpins and comb, and hatpin. Mr Bunting then came up and took her home, while he (witness) ran to inform Mr Marshall of what had happened. Witness found the bottle of beer (produced) in the road close to where he found Miss Marshall.

George Taylor, landlord of the George and Dragon Inn, Tansley, deposed to prisoner leaving his house just before ten o'clock on Saturday night with a pint of beer. Prisoner had drink, but was sober.

P.c. Webster said about 12.15 on Sunday morning he received information from Mr Francis Marshall that his daughter had been assaulted. After making enquiries he went to prisoner's father's house at Portland Grange, where he saw prisoner, who admitted he had been at Tansley the previous night, and had been supplied with a bottle of beer at the George and Dragon. He told prisoner he should lock him up on suspicion of assaulting a girl at Tansley, and prisoner replied "All right; I'll go with you." About ten o'clock prisoner was placed between four other men at Matlock Police Station, and Miss Marshall identified him as the man who had assaulted her.

Replying to the charge, prisoner said: "I'm sorry it happened. It will make a lot of difference to me. I shall lose my pension."

Prisoner: What did you mean by asking where my brother Earnest was? – I did not ask you that question.

Prisoner: You asked me four times.

Francis Claye Marshall, father of the prosecutrix, Canada Farm, Lea, said he received the bottle of beer in question about eleven p.m. on Saturday night from Isaac Carter, who informed him his daughter had been assaulted. Just afterwards his daughter was brought home, and from what she told him he gave information to the Police.

By prisoner: While knocking at prisoner's father's house someone asked "Do you want Earnest?"

Prisoner desired to say nothing, but asked permission for his father to give evidence.

Robert Ashton, of Portland Grange, a labourer, deposed to hearing either P.c. Webster or Mr Marshall ask for "your brother Earnest," between 11 and 12 p.m. on Saturday night .

Dr. Moxon: I don't see what this has got to do with the case. Have you anything else to ask?

Witness: No.

Prisoner was committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions, bail being allowed, himself in £50 and two sureties of £25 each or one in £50.

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NEWS SUMMARY

At Matlock, on Wednesday, Job Ashton, a Matlock labourer was committed for trial for an alleged assault upon a lady visitor at Tansley on Saturday night.

24 August 1907

**THE WEEK'S POLICE
BEHIND THE HEDGE**

**TANSLEY POLICEMAN GETS A SUDDEN
BLOW.**

Two Tansley quarrymen named Samuel Knowles and Frederick Reeves, were charged at Matlock, on Monday, before Dr. W. Moxon and Mr J.H. Dawson, with assaulting Police constable Webster whilst in the execution of his duty on Saturday night, at Tansley.

Knowles, who had his head swathed in bandages, pleaded not guilty, and Reeves' defence was an alibi.

Superintendent Richardson said the assault was one of a particularly brutal nature. The officer was going from Matlock to Tansley, and while proceeding along the Cliff road, about twenty minutes past nine, P.c. Webster noticed three men crouching under the wall. He put his head over the wall to see what they were doing there, when he received a nasty blow on the right-hand side of the head with a heavy stick. Had it not been that Webster was fortunately wearing his service cap, he would have been severely injured, and in all probability the defendants would have had a more serious charge brought against them.

P.c. Webster said the 17th inst. was a moonlight night, and he had no difficulty in seeing the three men under the wall. The blow he received sent him reeling against the wall. When he recovered, he ran after the men, and caught Knowles, who said, "Stand back, or I will drop you." Witness thereupon struck Knowles with a stick, and then brought him to the Police Station.

By Dr. Moxon: Had he not struck, Knowles would have felled him, as he (Knowles) was in the act of striking. It was a case of getting in the first blow.

The officer, continuing, said he had not the slightest idea there was anything wrong. He only put his head over the wall to satisfy himself. Later, he found the bag and pegs (produced).

Knowles: Wasn't I on the footpath when you came up to me? – No.

Didn't you pull out your staff to me? – No.

Defendant, who in 1905 was fined £2 and costs for assault, was now fined 10s and 6s 6d costs, or, in default fourteen days. Application for time to pay the fine was refused.

With regard to the charge against Reeves, P.c. Webster said he identified the defendant as one of the three men who assaulted him.

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The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. J. Potter): Can you swear the defendant hit you with the stick? – No, I cannot. It was so sudden.

By Supt. Richardson: He did not see Reeves' face at all that night, but he could easily identify him from his back.

Reeves stated that he went into the Royal Oak at twenty minutes past eight and did not come out until eleven o'clock.

After corroborative evidence had been given by an independent witness, name Charles Henry Gratton, of Tansley, the bench dismissed the case.

Defendant: Can I get any recompense for this (laughter).

The magistrates' clerk: It was a case of suspicion.

Defendant: It isn't. I could have brought thirty witnesses.

5 October 1907

3

**THE WEEK'S POLICE
LIVELY SCENES AT TANSLEY.
MATLOCK CLIFF YOUNG WOMAN
ASSAULTED.**

The story of an assault on a young woman at Tansley was told to the magistrates in Matlock Police Court on Wednesday. The complainant was Annie Maria Booth, a single woman of Gipsy Row, Matlock Cliff, and the accused, John Thomas Atkin, (24), a Matlock Town labourer.

The charge was reduced from an indecent to one of common assault, and defendant pleaded not guilty.

Miss Booth said on Saturday last at 11.30 p.m. she went up the lane towards her home leaving her brother-in-law on Cliff Road. She met the defendant, her cousin, at the top of the lane and he got hold of her by the waist and dragged her some five yards. She was indignant and screamed, telling him to leave her alone. He got her down and they struggled, and her brother-in-law came up.

At this juncture complainant surprised the Court by stating she did not want to go on with the case.

Defendant: What was your brother-in-law doing that he could be there at a minute's notice?

Complainant: Never mind about that. That was not your way home as it is a private road.

William Askew, brother-in-law to the last witness, corroborated.

In reply to Mr Tom Wright (chairman of the Bench), witness said the parties were on the ground when he got there. Charles Quigley, Tansley, who had accompanied the complainant and the last witness from Matlock to Tansley to the bottom of the lane leading to Gipsy Row, also corroborated.

Defendant, on oath, admitted he saw Miss Booth at the top of Gipsy Row, but stoutly denied that he had touched her, or put his arm round her. As soon as she saw him she screamed "Will" and

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Wm. Askew came up and hit him several times about the head. He swore that what Askew and Booth said were lies. Askew never took him off the top of the complainant.

Mr Tom Wright : Why did he (meaning Askew) hit you?

Defendant: I don't know.

Mr James Potter (Magistrates' clerk): Why did Miss Booth cry "Will"? - I don't know.

Why didn't you take out a summons against Askew for assaulting you? - I didn't want to.

"Probably because it isn't true," was the Clerk's rejoinder.

Harry Wilmot said he heard a disturbance, and on going to see what was happening saw Askew on the top of the defendant. He saw nothing of Miss Booth.

The Chairman said as the complainant did not wish to unduly press the case, they would deal leniently with the defendant, and fine him £1 and the costs 6s 6d.

5 Oct 1907

**THE HARVEST OF 1907
DERBYSHIRE FARMERS' EXPERIENCES
PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE
EXCLUSIVE REPORTS FROM OUR AGRICULTURAL
CORRESPONDENTS.**

Tansley.

In an interesting report, Mr A. Jackson, of Daisy Bank, Tansley, has some outspoken comments on the new Small Holdings Act. He says:- On the whole the crops are highly satisfactory. Our grass fields have all the summer been full of rich and luxuriant pasture, and consequently our stock has been kept in a healthy growing condition.

The hay crop has been one of the heaviest I can remember, and when it has been housed in good condition will be highly nutritious. But of course the hay season has been very protracted, and has cost the farmers about three times as much money to clear their fields of hay as in an ordinary season.

Wheat and oats are above the average, both in grain and length and quality of straw. It has not been laid and twisted as in many parts of the country, but stands well up to a height of five to six feet. Turnips and mangolds are a very good crop indeed, and will help the farmers to keep their stock at a cheap rate during the winter.

Cabbages are hearting well, and will be above the average. It is a pity this crop is not grown more largely, as when the ground is suitable and the weather is favourable it is a highly valuable produce of the farms.

The Government's Small Holdings Act will soon come into force, but how this will prove beneficial to the country I am at a

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loss to understand. It appears strange to ask the dwellers in large towns, who know little or nothing of farming, to take up farms when those who have followed agricultural pursuits all their lives have the greatest possible difficulty to make things pay. I suppose it is carrying out the idea that although it takes several years to make a tradesman any fool can farm. But those of use who have been used to farming and made the breeding of stock and the growing of farm produce a special study, think that 14 years is not too much to learn the mysteries of farming.

12 October 1907 7

FOUND DROWNED
Ashover Lady Discovered at
Tansley.

An inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the date of Louisa Marsden, aged 52 years of Moor Grange, Ashover, who was found drowned at Tansley, early on Thursday morning, was held the same day by the Coroner Mr. Sidney Taylor, at the Gate Inn, Tansley. The jury were: Messrs. T. McMunn (foreman), H. Marsden, Alfred Bowler, T. Higdon, G. Barrett, J. Webster, B. Taylor, W.H. Taylor, J.A. Smith, M. Marriott and J. White.

Arthur Marsden, of Derwent House, Matlock, nephew of the deceased, said his aunt had resided for the last two months with Mr. A. G. Wheatcroft at Ashover. Since the death of deceased's mother, some seven or eight years ago she had not had a permanent home. Her health had been good, but of late she had suffered from depression.

She had been a lady's companion since the death of her mother and was in receipt of 10s. per week from his (witness's) father. Deceased had not been brought up to do any work, and owing to her being out of a situation, he thought it had preyed on her mind. She had shown signs of a suicidal tendency, and on account of a certain action she had been put by her friends into a private asylum.

Allsop Harrison Wheatcroft, an Ashover farmer, said that deceased, who was his cousin, had lived with him since August 9th. A few days ago she received a letter from her youngest brother, and since then she had been very gloomy. From what witness heard, the deceased's brother was out of work and had written asking her for financial assistance. This she was not in a position to give and he thought it had upset her.

Mary Elizabeth Wheatcroft, daughter of the last witness, said she last saw the deceased alive about two o'clock on Wednesday. She noticed nothing unusual about deceased, who told her she would not be back for tea, which was a rather unusual thing. Deceased had low-spirited, and witness did not become alarmed because she did not come home on Wednesday night, as she thought she had gone to see her brother at Matlock.

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Mr. Wheatcroft (recalled), said he first heard that Miss Marsden had gone out for tea at 5.30 on Wednesday. He thought that someone must have invited her, as she had previously been to Chesterfield, and consequently he did not trouble about her when she did not come home.

The Coroner: Were you alarmed when she did not return home on Wednesday night?

Witness: No; not particularly. It rained very hard and as she had not got her umbrella I thought she had decided to stay with her brother for the night.

By the Coroner: He had not notified the police that she was missing until 11 o'clock on Thursday morning. His son told him that morning there had been a woman drowned at Tansley.

The Coroner: Why didn't you inform the police sooner?

Witness (indignantly): I am not a keeper.

The Coroner: You must not speak to me like that. Now tell me why you did not go and look for her on Wednesday night.

Witness: What! Go two or three miles in the rain. You wouldn't.

The Coroner: A woman's life is worth more than a wet coat.

The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide whilst of unsound mind."

19 Oct 1907

12

CRIME IN THE COUNTY

**Mysterious Assault at Tansley.
A YOUNG WOMAN'S STORY**

A considerable portion of the time of the Court was spent in the hearing of a case in which Job Ashton (25), of Matlock Moor, labourer, was charged with indecently assaulting Gladys Bartlett Marshall at Tansley on Aug. 3rd.

Mr Hole conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Moresby White defended.

Prosecutor, 22 years of age, working at Old Trafford, Manchester, said that her father lived at a farm near Tansley. On the night named she was going to Matlock. She was met on the road by the prisoner about 9.45 and he walked "level with her" on the opposite side of the road. He subsequently spoke to her, saying it was a nice night and she replied that it was. They walked along until near Bunting's farm, and he then came towards her. She ran down the road, but the prisoner overtook her and caught hold of her by the right arm, putting one of his hands over her mouth.

Mr. Hole: What happened next? – Two false teeth and two natural ones were knocked out on some stones.

Why did he put his hand over your mouth? – To stop me screaming.

By Mr. Hole: It was after this that the assault complained of took place. Bunting's house door then opened and the prisoner ran

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away. Mr. Bunting then came up and she told him what had happened.

Mr. Hole: Have you any doubt that the prisoner is the man who assaulted you?

Prosecutrix: No, none whatever. I identified him immediately.

Cross-examined by Mr. White: She identified him by his stooping shoulders and dark tie.

Mr. White: Now, listen to this question. Both your hands were free. Why didn't you scratch his face? He would have been easily identified then?

Prosecutrix: You don't think of those things at such a time.

Did you slap his face? – No.

When you were brought to the police station to identify the prisoner, how many men were there? – Three and the prisoner.

And can you tell me how the other three men were dressed? – No.

The Chairman: When you were taken to identify the prisoner, how long did you examine them? – About two minutes.

William Bunting, a Tansley farmer, said he was in bed at the time and heard a lady's scream. On going out he saw a young lady on the ground, and when he helped her she told him that a man had assaulted her.

Isaac Turner, of the Yew Tree Farm, Tansley, said that he was walking on the road from Tansley in company with Reuben Dennis, when he heard a young woman scream. He went and found her sitting on the road, and she asked them to go after the man who had assaulted her. Farther up the road he found an "Oold Grand" whisky bottle, in which there was some beer.

George Taylor, landlord of the George and Daragon, Tansley, said the prisoner was a customer and was in his house on the night in question. He came into the house about 9 o'clock and left the house a few minutes before 10.

Mr. Hole: Before he left the house did he ask for anything? – Yes, he asked for a bottle to put some beer in.

Is that the bottle (produced)? – It is a similar bottle to the one I gave him.

Mr. White (cross-examining): Were you busy at your house that night? – Not particularly.

But you sold a lot of beer? – Yes.

Did you notice the accused that night? – You have to take notice of them all nowadays.

Did you hand the bottle (produced) to the prisoner? – I could not swear to that.

Do you sell a lot of Old Grans whisky? – I sell enough to know an old Grans bottle. (Laughter.)

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Mr. White: I am very glad to hear that. It is a very good whisky: I drink it myself. (Laughter.)

P.C. Webster stated that from information received he visited the prisoner's house and he admitted that he had got a bottle of beer at the George and Dragon, Tansley. When asked for the bottle he could not find it, and the witness then produced the bottle and asked the prisoner if that was it. He replied, "One like it." When formally charged, he remarked, "I am sorry it happened. It will make a lot of difference to me. I shall lose my pension."

Mr. White: When you cautioned and charged the prisoner, didn't he say "I am very sorry that I have been accused of this offence? – No.

Did you know the prisoner was in the army? – No, not until he mentioned about his pension.

Francis Claye Marshall, father of the prosecutrix, said that he was present when the prisoner was charge and that he was sorry for what had occurred.

This concluded the case for the Crown.

Robert Ashton, father of the prisoner, related the story of the policeman's visit to his house, and added that his son had always been a good boy, and had never been charge with any offence before.

Sarah Ashton (13), the prisoner's sister, said that she found another Old Grans bottle (produced) in the garden outside her father's house.

Mr. Hole: Was it full of beer, little girl, when you found it? – No.

It was empty as now? – Yes.

Prisoner then went into the box, and said that he went straight home on leaving the George and Dragon a few minutes before 10 o'clock. He drank the beer on the way and threw the bottle in the garden. When the officer told him the reason of his visit he replied that he was sorry that he had been accused of such an offence. He had never seen the young lady nor assaulted anyone.

The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, but the foreman said his colleagues desired to express their sympathy with the young girl, but in the present case the evidence was not sufficient to convict.

The Chairman entirely agreed with the Jury's verdict.