

Stamford Mercury, 13 April 1787

On Saturday Solomon Tuck was executed at Ely, for the murder of John Saunders, of Wisbech, in this county, pursuant to his sentence on Thursday last.

It appeared on the trial, the deceased went out with Tuck a fishing on the 25th of February last, and was not seen afterwards, until a waterman found his body in the river the 25th of March, in a place called Horse-shoe-hole. Two witnesses deposed, that Tuck offered them a good reward if they would push the deceased into the river, he promising to make him drunk for the purpose, which it seems he had done the day he lost his life, as they (Tuck and Saunders) stopped at the Crown and Mitre at Leverington 'till half past seven o'clock at night, and were obliged to pass by the place where the deceased's body was found. The evidence of six other witnesses corroborated these circumstances. An eminent surgeon, who, on examining the body, found a wound on each temple, another under the ear, the collar bone broke, and otherwise much bruised, said either of the wounds on the temples were sufficient to be the cause of his death. The chief justice (Mr. Partridge) then summed up the evidence, and the jury, after ten minutes consideration, returned their verdict—*guilty, death*.

Tuck to the last denied committing the murder, and said that Saunders threw himself into the river.