



Bastardy Examination

Bremhill

At Calne Town Hall 17th November 1851

Mary Ann Webb v James Duck

Mary Ann Webb on her Oath saith:-

I am a single woman now living in the Workhouse of the Calne Union. About five months ago I was delivered of a male child, viz on the 12th June last. I charge the defendant James Duck with being the father of that child. I was living with my father and mother at Bremhill where the defendant used to visit me and where my connexion with the defendant took place. He used often to come there. We were living in the old Parish House. I was confined in the house of Joseph Summers at the bottom of Dumb Post Inn. He has often given me money.

At this point the defendant admitted giving her money in July and August last.

Order made 1s. 3d. a week and costs of 13s. 6d.

At Calne Town Hall 18th April 1853

Mary Ann Webb v James Duck

Disobeying a Bastardy Order dated 17th November 1851

Service of Order admitted and thirteen weeks arrears due to complainant also admitted by defendant.

Order made for arrears now due and not to be enforced till after the next monthly meeting prior to which the defendant will be in receipt of 6s. a week from his Club.

At Calne Town Hall 16th May 1853

Mary Ann Webb v James Duck

See Meeting of 18th April 1853

It appearing that the defendant was only in receipt of 3s. a week from his club the magistrates declined making any order for the present

At Calne Town Hall 26th September 1853

Mary Ann Webb v James Duck

13 weeks arrears at 1s 3d. a week admitted. (Total arrears 16s 3d.)

See back meetings of 18th April & 16th May 1853

To pay a portion of wages when in regular work. Excused at present on account of ill health.

Source:- B10/100/1 - Justice Minute Books, Calne County Division 1851-1883 Held at WSHC.