



Bastardy Examination

Calne

At Calne Town Hall 30th July 1861

Sarah Salter v William Pincutt

Sarah Salter swore and says:

I have been delivered of a bastard child on the 8th of May last it was born in the Calne Union. William Pincutt is the father of such child. I had been living at Mr. Collingbournes and the defendant was a day labourer there. I lived there half a year from Lady day 1860, the defendant promised me marriage and to buy the ring. I told the defendant when I first found myself in the family way and the defendant told me in my mothers house in her presence "he should come to let us know when we were asked" meaning to be asked in Church, he promised to marry me in a short time, he afterward did not care about me. The defendant went home with me when I had leave of absence, he stayed at my mother's house until I went back when he went with me back again. This was at Chalcutt in the parish of Bremhill.

On Cross Examination:

I have had one child before. I was living at Malmesbury for 6 months. I have not been before the magistrates at Calne. I was present at the time when the defendant gave my mother 2 shillings - it was 4 o'clock when we got home to Chalcutt. I swear I have not been with anyone since August last, yes I have been with some one since August last, ~~the connection between me and the defendant.~~ I won't say whether any more men have been with me since August last.

Lucy Salter swore and says:

I live at Chalcutt. I am the mother of Sarah Salter. I have 3 daughters. About a month before my daughter left her place my daughter and the defendant came to my house and the defendant said that he should be asked in Church and would let me know. The brought some earthenware to my house to commence housekeeping. I was aware that defendant was keeping company with my daughter and I wished them to be married. She left her place to be married. She gave warning to leave her place on account of being married. When they were in my house the defendant voluntarily gave me a two shilling piece and told me he should be there again in a fortnight. I did not ask him what the money was given to me for.

On Cross Examination:

My daughter and the defendant both brought the earthenware to my house. I went to my daughter's mistress and she told me that my daughter had given notice to leave her situation to be married. My

mistress said she was sorry Sarah was going to leave but did not like to her to be with Pincutt. The defendant shook hands and gave me a two shilling piece but did not say what is was for.

Sarah Salter recalled said:

It was in September when I and the defendant went home to my mothers house, it was on a Monday.

Mr. Pratt of Wootton Bassett who appeared for defendant asked for an adjournment which was granted until 30th September.

30th September 1861

The child having died since the adjournment of the last meeting the complainant appeared and made application for 6/- the amount of her costs. The defendant (by his Attorney, Mr. Pratt) paid on condition that the Summons should be withdrawn.

Source:- B10/100/2 - Justices Minute Books, Calne County Division 1851-1883