



Bastardy Examination

Hillmarton

At Calne Town Hall 27th August 1860

Elizabeth Rivers v Henry Mace

Elizabeth Rivers on her oath saith as follows:-

I live at the parish of Hillmarton in this County and am a singlewoman. Five weeks ago last Friday (on the 20th July 1860) I gave birth to a male bastard child. The child is now living. Henry Mace now present is the father of the Child. I first became acquainted with Mace while I was living with Mr. Turtle a farmer at Wanborough. I was a dairymaid there and the defendant Mace was a labourer on the farm. It was the Summer half year that I went to Wanborough, it was Lady Day last year - he courted me up to December last. Six weeks after Michaelmas last year, I found myself in the Family way. ~~Once denied it to Mace.~~ Mace soon after asked me if I was in the Family way, I said I didn't know. I produce two letters I received from Mace (Mace admits the handwriting). Whitsunday last I and my mother saw Mace together at Bishopstone. My mother asked if Mace was going to have me. Mace did not say whether he would or not and when we came away he said he would write. I heard Mace my mother that he would help keep the child.

Sarah Rivers on her oath saith as follows:

Elizabeth Rivers who has just been examined is my daughter. I understand that Mace was courting her - he came to our house at Clevancy after she left Wanborough several times. I remember going to Bishopstone on Whitsunday last with my daughter. We saw Mace. I knew my daughter was in the family way and I said to Mace you had better make up your minds be married before she came to shame, he said he would write and let me know. He told me then that he would help keep the child.

Order signed by William Warren and Charles Henry Wyndham, Esquires made for 2s. per week for the first six weeks and the same afterwards until 13 V. C.

Source:- B10/100/1 - Justices Minute Books, Calne County Division 1851-1883