

Bastardy Examination

Hilmarton

At Calne Town Hall 21st May 1860 Mary Lewis v George Lovelock

Mary Lewis on her oath saith as follows:-

I live at Bacon Hill, in the parish of Hillmarton in this County and am a singlewoman. On the twentieth day of February last I gave birth to a Child, a boy. George Lovelock now present is the father of the Child. On Easter Sunday last year I first became acquainted with Lovelock. I went into a beer shop at Borough End to have some refreshment and there met Lovelock. Lovelock walked with me home the distance as much as a mile - Magdaline Hopkins was with us. That night he had connexion with me. Has since kept company with me. He has had connexion with me three of four times since. I met him at Goatacre several times. He has been to my father's house - he was received as my follower in the Evening generally. I told the defendant through Magdaline Hopkins that I was in the Family way by him. I told him so myself afterwards and he asked me whether it was true or not and he wanted to have connexion with me again but I refused and he said he would not pay to the Child. I produce a Letter which I received from the Defendant. (The Defendant stated that the Letter was written by his wife at his request.) I produce the envelope in which I received it. The postmark is Calne, February 8 1860. The letter was sent to me with a letter I had written to him returning the same. I produce that letter.

Cross Examined by Mr. Bakewell.

The first time the defendant had connexion with me was on Easter Sunday. It was going away from Clark's beerhouse. I had not been in his company before Easter Sunday - seen him, but never in his company alone - there were some parties who left the Beer shop with us. They left us at Goat I know William Lovelock. I have never been alone with him. I know Luke Ovens but nothing more. I know Ralph Gaun, he kept company with my sister. I have not been with him alone. I have not gone with a lone from Calne alone - Magdaline Hopkins. I did not go with Ralph Gaun and Luke Ovens to Cowbridge Gate. I don't know Jesse Tuck of Calne & never spoke to him. I know Jesse Turk he is kin to me, he used to live next door - he is a married man. I have never met him at Calne. I have come into Calne for his wife and he has come to me when I was late. I have come into the Doctor for medicine at the workhouse. I have never gone from Calne with him he has met me at Hillmarton and then never so late as twelve o'clock at night. I was at Hillmarton Feast. I did not dance at the Duke. In the Easter week I met the Defendants at Magdaline Hopkins's in the evening after work - he walked home with me - Magdaline Hopkins told me should not appear here to say but if the case was put off to another day she could come. Lovelock did not go all the way home with me - he sent Magdaline Hopkins to ask me to meet him at Goatacre. In the week after Easter week I again met him at Magdaline Hopkins in the evening. My aunt has several times seen us together.

Jane Gingell on her oath saith as follows:-

I live at Calne, Last Witsuntide I saw the complainant who is my niece with the defendant they were at her Father's house together. They appeared to be in courtship. I was at Hillmarton Club on Wit Wednesday, they were together there.

Mary Lewis on her oath saith as follows:-

I am the mother of the complainant. I saw the defendant at my house twice. I looked upon him as my daughter's follower. I knew they did go together. I ascertained that she was in the family way and asked who the father was. She said George Lovelock. On Wit Wednesday night he came home to my house with my daughter - it was late in the evening and he stayed till the morning of the next day. I went to bed ad left them up but my sons were up. Afterwards on a Chippenham great market night I saw my daughter with the defendant against the garden stile - it was between ten and eleven o'clock. It was some time after wit Wednesday that I saw them. It was on a Friday night. Eliza Rivers told me last Saturday night that she had seen them together often.

Order made for 1s. 6d. per week.

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