



Bastardy Examination

Calne

At Calne Town Hall 15th March 1869

Elizabeth Angell v James Skinner

Elizabeth Angell swore & saith:-

I am a single woman and live in Calne in the County of Wilts. I was delivered of a female bastard child on the 22nd April 1868. James Skinner of Calne, Blacksmith is the father. He promised before I was confined he would do what was right but he hasn't done it. I have spoken to him but he said he wouldn't pay anything unless obliged to. On the 13th of July 1867 Harriet Weston was walking with me and James Skinner by the canal. Skinner and I separated from her. She was not far from us. James Skinner had connexion with me then in the corner of the field by the bridge, this was directly after Harriet Weston left us. She stayed behind and joined us again. Skinner has had connexion with me four times.

Cross Examined:-

Weston was standing about three yards off when the connexion took place. She could have seen if she chose. Skinner is the only man who had connexion with me in July. George Goodship had not had connexion with me in July. He was not present at any time when Skinner had connexion with me. He was present when Harriet Weston was present but had not been present before. I have not had connexion with John Smart. I did not tell Smart or Goodship that I was in the family way.

Adjourned to next meeting.

At Calne Town Hall 19th April 1869

Elizabeth Angell v James Skinner

Hannah Weston swore & saith:-

I am a single woman and live in Calne. I very well know Elizabeth Angell. I also know James Skinner. I remember very well going out for a walk with them once. It was in July 1867 - not last July - it was round by the water, the canal. George Goodship was with us. I saw nothing improper between them, complainant and defendant. I was with them all the evening. I left them in the New Road,

between 7 and 8 on Tuesday evening it was when we went. I waited in the path till they came back. I went over the bridge first and the followed me.

Case Dismissed

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