



Affiliation Order Liddington 1891

Bateman v. Crew

Swindon Police Court, Thursday
Adjourned for a week

Frederick Crew, a stableman of Liddington, was similarly summoned by Mary Bateman, single woman, of Liddington.

Complainant stated that this child – a boy – was born on the 1st August last. After the child was born, defendant came to lodge with her father, where she was staying. Defendant had not admitted the paternity to her. He lent her 10s. to get the child some clothes, and she had not repaid him yet. He also gave her half-a-crown on May 19th last to buy the child some boots. She remembered the date because it was her birthday.

Annie Thompson, called by complainant, said she saw defendant give complainant half-a-crown to buy the child some boots. This was at her father's house in May last.

Mrs. Carter, sister of the complainant, was called and said she knew defendant formerly kept company with complainant.

Defendant was sworn and alleged that complainant had been keeping company with another man a twelve month ago last Christmas but he was now gone abroad. While this “young gentleman” was walking out with her, he (defendant) was discarded. He had seen them walking together at night. After consultation, the Chairman asked complainant why she had not taken out the summons before, seeing that the child was born nearly a year ago.

Complainant said she did not bring the case forward earlier because defendant promised to marry her.

After further consultation, the Bench adjourned the case for a week.

Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle, 11 July 1891

Swindon Police Court, Thursday
Affiliation Case

Frederick Crew, stableman, of Liddington, was summoned for an order in bastardy by Mary Bateman, single woman, of the same place.

Mr. A. E. Withy appeared for the complainant and Mr. A. W. Boodle for the defendant.

The case, opened at the last Court, was now reheard, complainant and her witnesses giving similar evidence to that given last week. The witnesses called by complainant were Mrs. Kempster, Thomas Carter and his wife Alice (sister of the complainant) and a friend, Harriet Thompson. The evidence

went to show that the complainant and defendant had both been living in service at the Manor House, Liddington, and that afterwards defendant lodged at complainant's house.

The defence set up was that another young man, who had since gone out to the Cape of Good Hope, was the father of the child. Defendant was examined, and swore positively he was not the father of the child. In cross examination, defendant admitted having been familiar with complainant, but at a later date than she had alleged. He admitted also that he had nursed the baby, and bought feeding bottles for it, "but", he added "I expected to be paid for them.

Defendant called one witness, a man named Hollister, who said he saw complainant and a "young gentleman" whose name he gave, walking together at Liddington at Christmas 1889.

After consultation, the Bench made an order upon defendant to contribute 2s. 6d. per week till the child is 14 years of age, and pay the costs, which amounted to £2 10s.

Swindon Advertiser and North Wilts Chronicle 18 July 1891