



An Amatory Servant

Malmesbury Petty Sessions, Jan 5. Before the Earl of Suffolk, Lord Andover, Rev. H. Wightwick, Clerk, and R.H. Pollan, Esq.

Daniel Reeves, of Burton Hill, Butcher, was summoned by Joseph Caldecott, for payment of £2 8s., alleged to be due in part for services rendered, and the other part for a month's wages by reason of his having been suddenly discharged. The plaintiff swore that in September last, he was engaged at 8s. per week, beside board and lodging, and if they disagreed there was to be a month's notice, or a month's wages given or stopped. He had been 15 weeks in the situation, and was discharged on the 4th inst., without any notice. In defence, the terms of the contract were denied, and it was stated that the engagement was for a year, if the plaintiff sued. The reason for so discharging, was, that he had been seen in the female servant's room, instead of minding his business, and Mrs Reeves had expressed herself in strong terms against such conduct. The plaintiff in reply, insisted that this was a mere excuse, for he had only gone up to the room for his smock-frock, and his Mistress had taken a dislike to him because he had certainly on one occasion been caught by her, kissing the servant girl's lips, or rather she had heard the smack from the parlour, and came out. The magistrates expressed their determination to uphold good moral conduct in families, but blamed Mr Reeves for not giving due notice: He was ordered to pay £1 12s and costs.

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