

The Examination of William Johnson, 1737 From St. Peter's Marlborough

Examination in the Burrough of Marlborough, in Wilts.

To wit, the Examination of Wm. Johnson, taken on Oath, the 12th day of June 1737, Before, Thomas Beaven Gent, Mayor & Wm. Gough Gent, two of his Majesties Justices of the Peace of the said Burrough, as followeth.

Saith, That he was born in the City of Limerick in the Kingdom of Ireland - That he is a Weaver and Woolcomber by Trade and that he work'd at his said trade a Year and a halfe with one Moses Vine of Kenta Street in the parish of St. George's, The Burrough of Southwark - Then married with one Mary Bowles of Swansey in Wales, but a Servt. At that time at the Bell and Bare in the Burrough of Southwark aforso, and went with his said wife to Bristoll to work and work'd there with one Charles Crawley without Castle Gate abt three Months, and his said wife with him - The he left his said wife and went back to London again, and work'd for himself, till about Five or Six weekes agoe (During wch time, he left his said wife at Bristoll aforesaid). Then went to the Devizes, and work's there abt three weekes with one Mrs. Pile, - Then went to Bristoll to seek for his said wife, But when he came there, understood she was gone up to London after him, Five weekes before, - The was making his way up towards London again, and Tuesday last met her with two Men, about four or five miles beyond Bath, - Ask'd her wt she had done wth the Child, and she told him she had left it at the Six Bells in Marlborough, to wch place he saith he is now come for his said Child.

Saith That he was married to his said wife, abt Michas last, att he hand and penn in the Fleet, within the said City of London, and when he went away from her as aforesaid to London, he lkeft her big with Child & therefore Suppos'd She had been brt to bed, when he so met her & ask'd her for the Child as before is set forth

Sworn before us the day and
Year aforesaid.
Thos. Bevan
Will: Gough

Wm. Johnson

Rec'd of the Churchwardens and Overseers of St. Peter's Marlborough a Male Child which was found att the Ring of Bells in ye sd Parish last Sunday Morning. I own myself to be the true father of the Child and do promise the Parish to take care of the same as witness my hand this 12th day of June 1737,
Witness

Tho, Hodges
Anne Hodges.

Wm. Johnson.

Wm. Johnson from ye Citty of Lymerick and Mary Bowls from Swansey being ye Father & Mothr of Thos. Johnson