



The Tomatoes Did It

Jane Brierley, Pedlar of no settled abode, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Rochdale Road, at 7.30 on Tuesday evening. P.C. Coates said he found prisoner drunk in Rochdale Road, Britannia, and dancing in the middle of a crowd of people. When taken into custody she refused to walk, and witness placed her in a passing float, and so got her to the Police station. Prisoner said she had only had three pennyworth of whiskey, and two glasses of beer, but she had eaten two tomatoes (laughter). The Chairman:- Were they English or Foreign? Prisoner said she did not know. They were two a penny. The Chairman warned prisoner about indulging in such luxuries in future and she was fined 1s and costs.



Assault Cases Withdrawn

Julia Mc Quinn, married woman of Sandholes Row, was summoned for an assault by Mary Ellen Daley, married woman of Huttock-End Lane, and there was cross summons from Mrs Quinn against Mrs Daley. Mrs Quinn said she was ready to settle the case. Mrs Daley, who appeared in court with a black eye, she said would settle it if Mrs McQuinn gave the necessary promise not to hit her again. Mrs McQuinn gave the necessary promise, and said that Mrs Daley shoved her. Mrs Daley denied this, but undertook not to shove her in the future, upon which the summonses were allowed to be withdrawn.



❖ **The sad story of a servant girl abandoned in trouble appeared in the Bacup Times of 1920.**

Bacup Times May 1920

SENTENCE FOR CONCEALMENT OF BIRTH

At the Manchester Assizes on Tuesday Rose Whittaker 27 Domestic Servant, pleaded guilty to concealment of birth at Blackpool on May 20th. Mr Goldie said prisoner was employed as a laundry maid at a boarding house from May 2nd. She was taken ill on the night of May 20th, and a lady doctor was called. She at first denied that a child had been born, but

afterwards admitted it. The child was born dead, and its body had been concealed under a mattress. Mr Griffith said prisoner was a native of Bacup, and had been in service at Darwen and Blackburn. She had been deserted by the man who wronged her. Her parents were dead and her brothers were in the Colonies. Destitute and alone, she had tried to conceal her shame. She had always been of good character, and was a good worker. Her employer was willing to take her back into her service. Taking into consideration that she had been in custody since May 20th, Mr Justice Rigby Swift passed a nominal sentence of two days imprisonment and she was at once dismissed.

The majority of working class women in Bacup and Stacksteads were hardworking, and family orientated. Whilst there is no doubt their life was hard they made the best of what they had. Some however had a harder time than most, whether through their own making or that of others.

February 6th 1875 A Disgrace To Her Sex - Jesse Woodeveiss was fined 5s and costs for having been drunk and disorderly in Todmorden Road, on Saturday afternoon. The prisoner was so drunk she had to be conveyed to the police station in a wheelbarrow.



An Old Familiar Face - Ann Barcroft who had been convicted twenty two times before was fined 20s and costs for having been drunk and incapable and causing a crowd of people to collect in the turnpike road at Tunstead bottoms, on the previous Friday evening. P.C. Scott proved the case. Defendant denied she was worse for liquor The bench severely admonished her for her intemperate and unfeminine conduct.



Extract from Bacup Times September 1896

Mary Ann Pilling, married woman, Back Irwell Street, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly. Inspector Downing said that at 7-30 on Tuesday evening, the 8th inst, defendant was drunk and using disgusting language. He put her in the house twice. Fined 5s and costs.



Extract from Bacup Times August 10th 1901

Quarrel At Underbank

Rebecca Flynn, married woman, Underbank, Bacup, was summoned by Caroline Townend, also of Underbank, for assault. Complainant stated that a few days ago she and Flynn had some bother about their children, and Flynn, who was always making disturbances, went up to her and shoved her, and gave her a smack on the mouth Complainant called her two sons who corroborated the assault. Defendant said on the day in question her little nine years old girl was taking her father's tea, when one of complainants sons smacked her on the face. She (defendant) shouted to the lad that when she caught him she would "give it*him," and complainant then went up and said "**tha darn't." They had a few words, and complainant challenged defendant to hit her. The Defendant would not, however, so with that the complainant hit her. She denied that she! ever hit complainant. Samuel Butterworth, who was called by defendant as a witness, spoke to seeing complainant go out of her house and interfere with defendant. They had words, and ultimately he saw complainant strike defendant and the latter push the other one The Magistrates dismissed the case, and ordered each party to pay half the costs.



Extract from Bacup Times August 10th 1901

Sarah Bird, married woman, Lee Mill, was summonsed for disorderly conduct. P.C. Whitwell said that at about 12-10 on Saturday night, defendant went up to him in Newchurch Road, and made use of some very bad language. Defendant said she had get excited owing to some bother she had been having at home. A fine of 2s 6d and costs was imposed or seven days imprisonment.



Extract from Bacup Times September 1906

Ellen Davies, and elderly woman, who was before the Bacup bench about three weeks ago, was charged with drunkenness. P.S. Butler stated that at nine o'clock on Sunday night he was in Union Street, when he saw the prisoner drunk and using bad language, with a crowd of people round her. He advised her to go to her lodgings several times but she refused, and would insist on creating a disturbance. He took her to the police station and locked her up. Prisoner said she had got a new pair of boots and she was not used to them and was so warm she took a drop of whiskey. The chairman told her: This is your third appearance within a month and you will have to go to prison for 14 days.



Extract from Bacup Times May 1906

Sarah McDonnell, a milkhand Bland Street Bacup, was summoned for drunkenness. P.S. Crossley stated that at twenty two minutes to two on Saturday morning, he was in Bland Street when he saw defendant leaning against railings in a very drunken condition she attempted to walk but fell down. He was in company with P.C Coates, and they conveyed her home. Prisoner denied that she was drunk, and said it was through the darkness and her short-sightedness. She had gone on the landing and so to the wrong house. She could have brought witnesses, but she was told she wouldn't need any. The case was adjourned for a week to allow defendant to bring witnesses.

Extracts From Bacup Times 1896

Alice Taylor, a married woman from Stacksteads was summoned for being drunk in Newchurch Road, Stacksteads, at 8.50 Saturday last. P.C.Porter said defendant was so drunk she kept falling in the road. She was being followed by a crowd of children. Taylor said it was her first appearance and it would be her last. Fined 2s 6d and costs.



Weak Woman

Rosanna Hall, Pedlar was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Union Street, at 12.40 on Saturday night. P.C.Hill proved the case and Inspector Downing confirmed. Prisoner said she had had some beer given in the lodging house, and being a weak woman, it took effect on her. She had been two days without food. Fined 2s 6d and costs.

