

Bury Times 3 April 1858

CLAIM FOR A DOCTOR'S FEE

Taylor v Chew

The plaintiff, who is a surgeon at Rawtenstall, sought to recover £7 7s from the defendant, a farmer at Edenfield. The plaintiff stated that the amount claimed was for professional assistance rendered to the wife of the defendant, on whom an operation was performed for the removal of a tumour weighing 35 lbs. At the request of the defendant he obtained the professional assistance of Dr. Clay, of Manchester, and for his services a fee of two guineas had to be paid, which was included in the seven guineas now claimed. For better convenience she was removed from Edenfield to Clough Fold, in order that the operation might be performed. Several other surgeons were in attendance at the operation, but no charge for their services had been made. Defendant alleged that Mr. Taylor agreed to clear him from all expenses on the payment of £5. He had paid £2 for lodging at Clough Fold, and he thought that the doctor ought to pay that. Dr. Clay was brought from Manchester because Mr. Taylor said he did not understand how to remove the tumour. His wife only lived six days after the operation. Mr. Taylor denied having said that he did not understand the operation, but admitted that he had not on any former occasion performed a similar operation. Verdict for the payment of two guineas immediately, and the remainder by installments. Defendant said he had paid £150 out of his own earnings for 'doctoring'.