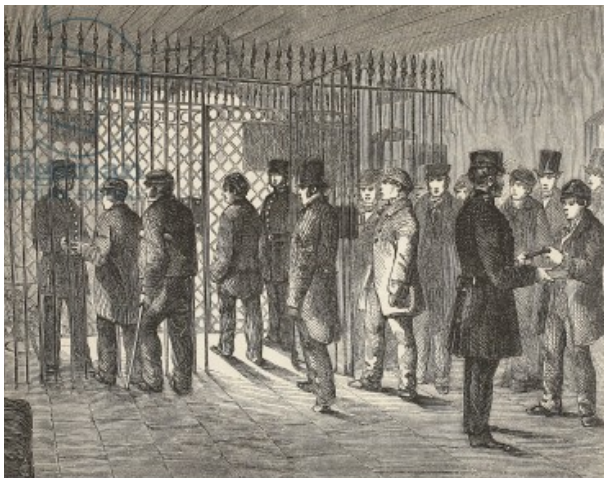

Assault on Girl in Her Own Home

At Westbury Police Court on Monday, John Bull, a labourer from Dilton Marsh was summoned for feloniously assaulting Jane Clinch of the same village on 4th November. The complainant who was allowed to be seated during her examination was an object of pity. She has suffered severely from heart disease for the last eight years, and fainted several times whilst giving her evidence. From the girl's statement it appeared on the day in question the defendant came to her father's house and finding her alone, he locked the door, put the key in his pocket, and feloniously assaulted her. She offered what resistance she could, which was not much. The result of the assault was that she was obliged to seek the advice of a medical man, and she had been suffering ever since. The defense was an alibi. The Chairman said the man could not commiserate the poor girl before them and must possess a heart of stone. They were satisfied the complainant's story was true, and the scoundrel would be sent to Devizes goal for six months hard labour.

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