

732

STATE OF ALABAMA, )  
BALDWIN COUNTY. )

TO ANY SHERIFF OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA - GREETING:

WE COMMAND YOU, That you summon LEON JOHNSON to be and appear before the Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, exercising Chancery Jurisdiction, within thirty days after the service of summons, and there to answer, plead or demur, without oath, to a Bill of Complaint lately exhibited by BESSIE JOHNSON against LEON JOHNSON, and further to do and perform what said Judge shall order and direct in that behalf. And this the said Respondent shall in no wise omit, under penalty, etc. And we further command that you return this writ with your endorsement thereon, to our said Court immediately upon the execution thereof.

Witness, R. S. DUCK, Register of said Circuit Court, this

23 day of June, 1941.

R. S. Duck  
Register.

BESSIE JOHNSON, Complainant, )  
Vs. )  
LEON JOHNSON, Respondent. )  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA,  
IN EQUITY.

TO HONORABLE F. W. HARE, JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA,  
IN EQUITY:

And now comes your Complainant, Bessie Johnson, humbly complaining against the Respondent, Leon Johnson, respectfully show unto your Honor and this honorable court, as follows:

1.

That the Complainant is over twenty-one years of age and a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama; that the Respondent is over twenty-one years of age and a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama.

2.

That your Complainant and the Respondent are husband and wife, having been married at Mobile, Alabama, on January 12th, 1940; that they lived together as husband and wife in Baldwin County, Alabama, until to-wit, February 17th, 1941.

3.

That on to-wit, February 17th, 1941, and at various times prior thereto while they were living together as husband and wife, the Respondent cursed, threatened, and abused the Complainant and often threatened to do violence to her person which would necessarily endanger her life and health; that the conduct of the Respondent was such as to give the Complainant every reasonable apprehension to believe and she did believe that if she continued to live with him he would do violence to her person which would necessarily endanger her life and health.

Wherefore the premises considered the Complainant prays that your Honor will by proper process make the said Leon Johnson party Respondent to this bill of Complaint and by appropriate orders, require him to plead, answer, or demur to the same within the time and under the penalties prescribed by law and the practice of this Honorable Court.

Complainant further prays that upon a final hearing of this cause, your Honor will give and grant unto her a decree of absolute divorce, forever barring the bonds of matrimony existing between her and the Respondent; that she be granted such other, further, different or general relief as she may be in equity and good conscience entitled to receive, and as in duty bound she will ever pray.

BEEBE & HALL,

By: Shussee  
Solicitors for Complainant.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, }  
Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT

TO FRANCES BRANTLEY

KNOW YE: That we, having full faith in your prudence and competency, have appointed you Commissioner, and by these presents do authorize you, at such time and place as you may appoint, to call before you and examine BESSIE JOHNSON and CHARLEY LONG

as witnesses in behalf of BESSIE JOHNSON in a cause pending in our Circuit Court of Baldwin County, of said State, wherein

BESSIE JOHNSON

Complainant

and

LEON JOHNSON

Defendant,

on oath to be by you administered, upon THEM to take and certify the deposition of the witnesses and return the same to our Court, with all convenient speed, under your hand.

Witness 23rd day of JUNE, 19 41.

*R. G. Duch*

REGISTER

Commissioner's Fee \$

Witness' Fees, \$



THE STATE OF ALABAMA }  
Baldwin County }

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama,  
(In Equity)

BESSIE JOHNSON

COMPLAINANT

vs.

LEON JOHNSON

RESPONDENT

I, FRANCES BRANTLEY

~~Register and~~ Commissioner

have called and caused to come before me BESSIE JOHNSON and CHARLEY LONG

witness ~~ES~~ named in the requirement for Oral Examination, on the 23rd day of JUNE

194 1, at the office of BEEBE & HALL

in BAY MINETTE, Alabama, and having first sworn said witness ~~es~~ to speak the

truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the said BESSIE JOHNSON

doth depose and say as follows:

My name is Bessie Johnson. I am over twenty-one years of age and a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama. The Respondent is over twenty-one and a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama. The Respondent and I were married at Mobile, Alabama, on January 12th, 1940. We lived together as husband and wife until February 17th, 1941.

The Respondent, on February 17th, 1941, and at various times prior thereto while we were living together as husband and wife cursed, threatened, abused me, and threatened to do violence to my person, which would necessarily endanger my life and health. The Respondent is a man of high temper. His conduct was such that I believe that if I continued to live with him he would do violence to my person, and endanger my life and health. I have had to support myself. He has contributed nothing toward my support and manor.

It is absolutely impossible for us to live together.

Bessie Johnson  
CHARLEY LONG, A WITNESS FOR THE COMPLAINANT, BEING FIRST DULY SWORN, DEPOSES AND SAYS:

My name is Charley Long. I live at Bay Minett, Alabama. I am personally acquainted with Bessie and Leon Johnson and have know them for several years. I knew and lived near them while they were living together as husband and wife, at Bay Minette, Alabama, and have had occasion to be with and around them often. The Respondent is a man of high temper. I have often heard and know as a fact that the Respondent often threatened and abused the Complainant. From their conduct as observed by me, they cannot get along and continue to live together as husband and wife. The complainant is about twenty-two years of age and the Respondent is twenty-four. They have no children and neither has any property.

Charley Long

STATE OF ALABAMA, )  
BALDWIN COUNTY. )

Before me, the undersigned authority in and for said County and said State, personally appeared Bessie Johnson, and having been by me first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That Leon Johnson is a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and is not in the Military or Naval services of the United States.

*Bessie Johnson*  
~~*Not in the army*~~

Sworn to and subscribed by me on this the 23 day of June, 1941.

*[Signature]*  
Notary Public, Baldwin County, Alabama.

BESSIE JOHNSON,  
Complainant,  
VS.  
LEON JOHNSON,  
Respondent.

)  
( IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
(  
( BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA,  
(  
(  
( IN EQUITY.

This cause coming on to be heard is submitted upon the original Bill of Complaint, Answer and Waiver of the Respondent, and Testimony, as noted by the Register, and upon consideration thereof, the Court is of the opinion that the Complainant is entitled to the relief prayed for in said Bill;

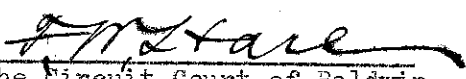
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Complainant that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between the Complainant and the Respondent, be, and the same are hereby dissolved and the Complainant is forever divorced from the Respondent on the grounds of cruelty.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Complainant and the Respondent be, and they are hereby permitted to again contract marriage upon the payment of the costs of this cause.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That the Complainant BESSIE JOHNSON, pay the costs of this cause, for which let execution issue.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the said BESSIE JOHNSON shall not again marry, except to the said LEON JOHNSON, until sixty (60) days after this date, and if an appeal is taken within sixty (60) days, she shall not again marry, except to the said LEON JOHNSON, during the pendency of the appeal.

Dated at Monroeville, Monroe County, Alabama, on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1941.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin  
County, Alabama.

Deane RECORDED

732

Filed June 27, 1941  
R. S. Deach, Register



RECORDED

BESSIE JOHNSON,  
Complainant,

VS.

LEON JOHNSON,  
Respondent.

AFFIDAVIT

*Filed June 23, 1941  
R.S. Duch, Register*

I, FRANCES BRANTLEY as Register and Commissioner hereby certify that the foregoing deposition on Oral Examination was taken down in writing by me in the words of the witnesses and read over to them and they signed the same in the presence of myself and before HUBERT M. HALL

at the time and place herein mentioned; that I have personal knowledge of personal identity of said witness~~es~~ or had proof made before me of the identity of said witness~~es~~; that I am not of counsel or of kin to any of the parties to said cause, or any manner interested in the result thereof.

I enclose the said Oral Examination in an envelope to the Register of said Court.

Given under my hand and seal, this 23rd day of JUNE 1941.

Frances Brantley (L. S.)

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_  
**THE STATE OF ALABAMA,**  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

COMPLAINANT

VS.

RESPONDENT

**ORAL DEPOSITION**

Filed June 24, 1941

R. S. Kunk, Register.

RECORDED IN

Record

Vol. \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Register

**RECORDED**

BESSIE JOHNSON,  
Complainant,

VS.

LEON JOHNSON,  
Respondent.

ANSWER AND WAIVER

*Filed June 23, 1941  
R.S. Dorch, Registrar*

NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**THE STATE OF ALABAMA**

**Baldwin County**

CIRCUIT COURT

Complainant \_\_\_\_\_

VS.

Defendant \_\_\_\_\_

**Commission To Take Deposition**

COMMISSIONER:

Witnesses:

732

RECORDED

BESSIE JOHNSON,  
Complainant,

Vs.

LEON JOHNSON,  
Respondent.

Executed 9/23 19 41

by serving subpoena

on Leon Johnson

W.R. Stewart Sheriff

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy Sheriff

BILL OF COMPLAINT

*Filed June 28, 1941  
R.S. Duch, Register*

BESSIE JOHNSON

VS.

LEON JOHNSON

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin County

IN EQUITY  
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

This cause is submitted in behalf of Complainant upon the original Bill of Complaint, \_\_\_\_\_

Answer and Waiver of Respondent ; Commission to take deposition ;  
Testimony of Bessie Johnson and Charley Long ; Request for Decree ;

and in behalf of Defendant upon Answer and Waiver ;

*R. S. [Signature]*

Register.

STATE OF ALABAMA,  
BALDWIN COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY.

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Term, 193\_\_\_\_\_

BESSIE JOHNSON

, Complainant

Vs.

LEON JOHNSON

, Defendant

To R. S. DUCK, Register :

In the above stated cause a Decree Pro Confesso having been taken against the Defendant, and evidence having been taken, and the cause being ready for submission for final decree, and no defense having been interposed, the Complainant, by BEEBE & HALL

\_\_\_\_\_ Solicitors of record, now files with the Register of this Court this written request to deliver the papers in this cause to the Judge for final decree in vacation.

*Beebe & Hall*  
*by H. Wallace*

Solicitor for Complainant.

RECORDED

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**The State of Alabama,**

Baldwin County.

**CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY**

Vs.

**REQUEST FOR DECREE IN  
VACATION**

Filed June 24, 1941

*R.S. Dush*

Register.

Recorded in \_\_\_\_\_ Record

Vol. \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Register.

Handwritten notes and bleed-through from the reverse side of the page, including the word "INDEXED" and other illegible text.



RECORDED

No. \_\_\_\_\_

The State of Alabama  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN EQUITY  
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

VS.

NOTE OF TESTIMONY

Filed in Open Court this 24<sup>th</sup>

day of June 1941

R. S. Dorch

REGISTER