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MINNIE WARD,
Complainant,
VS.
W. T. WARD,
Respondent.

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

Now Comes the Respondent, W. T. Ward, and for answer to the Bill of Complaint in this cause says:-

FIRST:

That he admits the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 and 2 to said Bill of Complaint.

SECOND:

That he most unequivocally and explicitly denies that on March 30, 1943 or at any other time prior thereto or since, that he threatened, cursed or abused complainant; that at no time has he ever committed actual violence upon her person by striking her or otherwise, and that at no time has he given the complainant reason to believe that if she continued to live with him that he would do violence to her person such as would endanger her life or otherwise. Respondent further shows unto the Court that the complainant was a widow at the time that he married her; that she had children by a prior marriage and that these children resented the fact that he had married their mother, and out of the influence of said resentment there has grown up in the mind and heart of the complainant an antipathy for him which he has noticed for some little bit last past; that all the time during the marital relations up until the time of the separation which occurred on the date aforesaid, he has endeavored to carry on and to do his part by complainant as a husband should have done; that on account of the animosity that the complainant has against him he found it to be impossible to live with her; that the complainant is high-tempered, vident and easy to get mad and, evidently she married him to have and to scold; that respondent probably erred when he entered into the marital relations with the complainant by going to live with her in view of the nature of her dis-

position in the home of complainant; that on all occasions the respondent was conscious of the fact that the home belonged to her and complainant made this known to respondent; or in other words, that she was boss of the habitation, and that he was required to conform not only to her whims and fancies and ideas, about things, but also to the notions and ideas of her said children, and especially as to her eldest son, a young man of about eighteen or twenty years of age, and that on account of the indignity and wrongful treatment that he was forced to undergo to remain in said home respondent says that on the aforeaid date, March 30, 1943, his patience ceased to be a virtue and he stepped out. The leaving of said home by the respondent was caused by the most unusual conduct and ill will of the Complainant.

THIRD:

Respondent says that he is around 56 years of age; that at one time in his life he was an able-bodied man, but on account of age and other things, he is beginning to slow up. He admits that he is employed at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company as a Guard and is receiving approximately \$ 40.00 per week; that out of these monies received it is necessary that he clothe himself and furnish transportation to and from his work and that on account of the high cost of living at the present time he nets a very small amount of money out of his salary, and that he has no property of any kind except a second-hand automobile of the value of about \$150.00. Respondent says that when he went to work at the Alabama Dry Dock Shipbuilding Company of Mobile, that it was necessary that he secure transportation of some kind to and from the home that he was living in, in Loxley, Alabama, to his work in Mobile, Alabama, and that he bargained for an automobile at a cost of \$200.00; that at the time he was making arrangements to buy this automobile on time or to borrow the money from some source and pay cash for the same that Complainant on learning this stated that her sister had some money and suggested that they borrow the money from her sister, and Respondent being willing that the sister have the interest on the same, agreed to this and the money for the purchase price of said car was borrowed from Complainant's sister. However, respondent has since paid in full the

demands of the sister of said Complainant growing out of said loan of \$200.00 for the purchase of said car; that respondent most unequivocally denies that complainant is not financially able to prosecute this suit, but shows unto this court that the complainant is engaged in the lucrative mercantile business at Loxley, Alabama, from which source she is receiving a sum of around \$ 100.00 per month as profits from said business; that in addition to this she owns the dwelling in which she lives of the value of \$ 2,000.00, and a stock of merchandise of the value of \$ 700.00; that she owns real estate consisting of a house and one acre of land at Repton, Alabama, of the value of around \$ 250.00, from which she receives \$ 50.00 for rent per annum and in addition to this she has an interest in certain real estate in Butler County, Alabama, being joint owner of the same, and that her value of interest in said property is unknown to respondent; that in addition to this she owns an automobile and other personal property of the value of \$ 500.00, or in other words, the complainant is in a pretty fair financial condition and fully capable of paying her solicitors fees and taking care of her other needs.

Having answered said Bill of Complaint Respondent respectfully asks that he be dismissed with a reasonable cost.


Solicitors for Respondent.

STATE OF ALABAMA
BALDWIN COUNTY.

WE COMMAND YOU, that you summon W. T. WARD to be and appear before the Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, exercising Chancery Jurisdiction within the next sixty days after the service of the summons, and there to answer, plead or demur without oath to a Bill of Complaint, lately exhibited by MINNIE WARD against the said W. T. Ward, and further to do and perform what the said Judge shall order and direct in this behalf, and this the 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. E. DUCK, register of said Circuit Court, this 20th day of April 1943.

R. E. Duck
Register;

| | | |
|--------------|---|-------------------------|
| MINNIE WARD, |) | IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF |
| COMPLAINANT |) | |
| |) | BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA |
| VS |) | |
| |) | IN EQUITY. |
| W. T. WARD |) | |
| RESPONDENT. |) | |

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

Now comes your complainant, Minnie Ward and humbly complaining against the Respondent, W. T. Ward, respectfully represents and shows unto your Honor and this Honorable Court as follows:

1.

That the Complainant and the Respondent are both over the age of twenty one years, and residents of Baldwin County, Alabama;

2.

That the Complainant and the Respondent were married in Pensacola, Florida on June 17th, 1940, and lived together as husband and wife until March 30th, 1943;

3.

That on, to-wit, March 30th, 1943, the Respondent threatened cursed and abused the Complainant, and did actual violence to her by striking her, that the conduct of the Respondent was such as to give the Complainant every reasonable apprehension to believe and she did actually believe that if she continued to live with him he would carry out the threats and do violence to her person which would necessarily endanger her life and health.

4.

That the Respondent is an able bodied man, employed with the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Company of Mobile as a Guard

at approximately \$35.00 per week, that immediately after their marriage the Complainant pledged her property and purchased an automobile which the Respondent has taken and withholds from the Complainant; that the Complainant is not financially able to prosecute this suit and can not pay counsel;

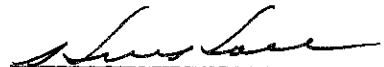
Wherefore, the premises considered, the Complainant prays that your Honor will by proper process, make the said W. T. Ward party Respondent to this Bill of Complaint, requiring him to plead, answer or demur to same within the time and under the penalties prescribed by law and the practice of this Honorable Court.

That your Honor will order a reference to determine a reasonable alimony, pen dente lite, and attorneys fees to be paid by the Respondent to the Complainant.

Complainant further prays that upon a final hearing hereof, your Honor will award to her a decree of divorce forever barring the bonds of matrimony between her and Respondent, and also award to her the possession of the automobile, and also such other reasonable amounts as your Honor shall deem proper as permanent alimony; that your Honor will award to her such other, 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



Solicitors for Complainant.

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MINNIE WARD
COMPLAINANT

VS

W. T. WARD
RESPONDENT

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT.

APR 20 1943

Filed

R. S. CLUCK
Clerk Register

Filed April 20 1943
W. T. Ward
Def

Received in Sheriff's Office
this 17 day of April, 1943
W. R. STUART, Sheriff

Executed 4-26 1943
by serving copy of within Summons and
Complaint on

W. T. Ward

W. R. Stuart

By R. F. Zucena Deputy Sheriff