

Bertha M. Lawrence,

vs.

Oswalt W. Lawrence

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,  
Deposition

and in behalf of Defendant upon Answer & Waiver

*Robert S. Duck*

Register.

150

Mr Robert S. Duck,

Register Circuit Court,

Bay Minette,

Alabama.

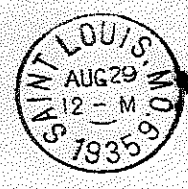
FILED  
1935  
AUG 29  
BAY MINETTE  
ALABAMA  
*Robert S. Duck*  
Register

DEPOSITION OF D. L. STEB, A WITNESS  
FOR COMPLAINANT.  
*Convincing fee \$2.50  
Paid by Complainant.*

LAWRENCE,  
Complainant.  
OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA  
LAWRENCE,  
Respondent.  
POSITION OF BERTHA LAWRENCE,  
S FOR COMPLAINANT.

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FILED  
1935  
AUG 29  
BAY MINETTE  
ALABAMA  
*Robert S. Duck*  
Register



Mr. Robert S. Duck

Register Circuit Court

No. 150

RECORDED  
6-187

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The State of Alabama  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN EQUITY  
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

Bertha W. Lawrence

VS.

Oswalt W. Lawrence

NOTE OF TESTIMONY

Filed in Open Court this 30th

day of August 1935

Robert S. Black

REGISTER

MOORE PRINTING CO., BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

E. M. Newman

E. M.

Newman

E. M. Newman  
Clerk

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RECORDED  
INDEX

BERTHA M. LAWRENCE,  
Complainant.

VS

OSWALD W. LAWRENCE,  
Defendant.

BILL OF COMPLAINT.

Filed for  
*Paul M. ...*  
Clerk-Registry

EDMOND G. RICKARBY  
COUNSELLOR  
TARRHOPE, ALABAMA

BERTHA LAWRENCE,

Complainant.

vs

OSWALT LAWRENCE,

Respondent

E Q U I T Y

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN

COUNTY, ALABAMA

THE DEPOSITION OF BERTHA LAWRENCE, WITNESS FOR COMPLAINANT, IN THE ABOVE STYLED CAUSE TAKEN BEFORE ME AS COMMISSIONER ACTING BY AGREEMENT OF PARTIES AND IN RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORIES PROPOUNDED BY COMPLAINANT.

The said witness being duly sworn testified as follows:

To the first interrogatory she says: I am a native born citizen of Baldwin County, Alabama where I lived up to about eight months ago when I came to St. Louis to work. Oswald Lawrence is also over the age of twenty-one years and a resident of Fairhope.

INTY. TWO: Oswald Lawrence and I were married on February 8th, 1934 but have not lived together since the first of 1935. We have one child of this marriage, a daughter named Margaret Jean, whom I have with me.

INTY. THREE: Since I parted from my husband I have learned that he has not been true to me but I do not know anything of this of my own knowledge.

\* Bertha Lawrence.

I, MARTHA LANDES, Commissioner named by agreement of the parties in the case of Bertha Lawrence vs Oswald Lawrence pending in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama hereby certify that I caused Bertha Lawrence, a witness for Complainant, to appear before me in the City of St. Louis on the 29th day of August, 1935 where after being duly sworn she answered the Interrogatories attached hereto and her answers taken down as near as might be in the language of the witness, read over by her and subscribed in my presence.

I further certify that I am neither of counsel nor of kin to the parties of the cause nor in any way interested in the result thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereto set my hand and seal as Commissioner this the 29th day of August, 1935.

° Martha Landes.  
Commissioner.

BERTHA LAWRENCE,  
Complainant.

E Q U I T Y  
CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN  
COUNTY, ALABAMA

VS

OSWALT LAWRENCE,  
Respondent.

INTERROGATORIES PROPOUNDED TO BERTHA LAWRENCE, WITNESS FOR  
COMPLAINANT:

FIRST: Are you and Oswald Lawrence both native citizens  
of Alabama and if so for how long? Are you both over the age of  
twenty-one years? ~~SECOND:~~ State when you were married and where you were  
living since your marriage. Are you living together now?

~~THIRD:~~ Do you know anything of your husband's behavior since  
your parting?

OSWALT LAWRENCE,  
Respondent  
AS  
COMPLAINANT

Bellitt & Rice  
Solicitor for Complainant.

Martha  
Miss Margaret Landes, a resident of the City of St. Louis  
is hereby suggested by agreement of the parties as Commissioner  
to take the testimony of the witness Mrs. Bertha Lawrence now  
living in St. Louis.

Bellitt & Rice  
Solicitor for Complainant.

COMPLAINANT'S EXHIBIT

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

Comes BERTHA LAWRENCE and by this her bill of Complaint presented against OSWALD W. LAWRENCE respectfully shows:

FIRST: That she and said Oswald Lawrence are both over the age of twenty-one years, both and raised in the State of Alabama; that Oswald Lawrence is now and has been all of his life a resident of Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama but she though a resident of Alabama is at present employed in the city of St. Louis, Missouri.

SECOND: That parties hereto were lawfully married at Bay Minette, Alabama on the ~~11~~<sup>8th</sup> day of ~~January~~<sup>February</sup>, 1934 but have not lived together since January 1st, 1935.

THIRD: That since Complainant and Oswald Lawrence parted she has learned that he has been unfaithful to his marriage vows but Complainant knows no details of this of her own knowledge but has not condoned same in any way nor has she seen said Oswald Lawrence since January 1st.

FOURTH: That one child has been born of this marriage, a daughter Margaret Jean who lives with and is supported by Complainant.

THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Complainant prays that Oswald Lawrence be made Defendant to this bill and by proper process notified to answer same within the time prescribed by law.

Complainant further prays that upon the hearing of this cause a decree be rendered forever divorcing her from the said Oswald Lawrence, granting her the right to marry again should she so desire, the sole custody and control of the infant child of the marriage and such other further or different relief as to Equity may seem meet.

*Clifford S. Piskorsky*  
Solicitor for Complainant.

E Q U I T Y.

BERTHA M. LAWRENCE,  
Complainant,

CIRCUIT COURT  
OF

BALDWIN COUNTY

versus

OSWALT Lawrence,  
Respondent.

DEPOSITION OF D. L. SIMS, WITNESS FOR COMPLAINANT.

The said witness being first duly sworn, upon examination by the Solicitor for the Complainant, testified as follows;

I am a resident of Fairhope and have lived here for the past ten years. I Have known Oswald Lawrence for about eight years of this time and for the past few years quite intimately. We have repeatedly gone out together with girls, both nice girls and those who were fast and who did not care how far they went. On one night about the middle of last May he and I took a couple of girls with whom we had made dates down into one of the gullies near Fairhope and has sexual intercourse with them. When I say this I do not mean to say that I saw him have relations with the girl he was with for he and she went off in the bushes a little distance from where I was with my girl and stayed there with her, perhaps a half hour before they rejoined us, but that was what we had gone down there for and I knew that the girl was that kind and that she knew what the other girl and I were doing. This was about nine o'clock. When they came back there was something said that alluded to what they had been doing.

This is not the first time that I have known of him having intercourse with girls nor is it the last. I just mention this occasion because I have some sort of idea of the date. I have known of his having intercourse with women on more than one occasion but do not remember dates.

D. L. Sims.

I E. M. Ninneman, Commissioner acting in this cause by agreement of the parties wherein Bertha Lawrence is Complainant and Oswald Lawrence is Respondent and pending in the Equity Side of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, hereby certify that I caused D.L. Sims, a witness for Complainant to appear before me in Fairhope on the 8th day of August, 1935 where, after being duly sworn, upon examination by the Solicitor for the Complainant he testified as is here set forth, that his testimony was then and there reduced to writing and read over and signed by him.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or of kin to either party or in anywise interested in the result of the cause,

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I hereto set my hand and seal as Commissioner this the 8th day of August, 1935.

E. M. Ninneman

Commissioner.

(SEAL).

Commissioner's fee, \$2.50. Paid by Complainant.

BERTHA LAWRENCE  
Complainant,

versus

OSWALT LAWRENCE,  
Respondent.

E Q U I T Y .

CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

Comes OSWALT LAWRENCE, Respondent in the above styled cause and for answer to the bill of complaint says that he denies each allegation of same.

Respondent hereby waives service and notice of demand for oral examination of Complainant's witnesses, of the issue of commission to take testimony; of the time and place for taking same and of the right to introduce evidence in his own behalf. He further agrees that this cause may be submitted for final decree at any time upon the pleading and Complainant's evidence as noted by the Register.

Oswalt Lawrence  
Respondent.

Before me, the undersigned Notary personally appeared Oswald W. Lawrence who is known to me and who acknowledged that he executed the foregoing answer voluntarily with knowledge of its contents.

Witness my hand this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1935.

Carl H. Bloxham  
Notary Public, Baldwin County, Ala.

*My Commission expires April 1-1936*



BERTHA M. LAWRENCE,  
Complainant,

versus

OSWALT W. LAWRENCE,  
Respondent.

E Q U I T Y .

CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

This cause coming on to be heard in Vacation, was submitted upon the Bill of Complaint, answer 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.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Court that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between the Complainant and the Respondent be, and the same are hereby dissolved and the parties are forever divorced each from the other.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the Complainant have the sole care and custody of Margaret Jean, the infant child of the marriage, subject to the right of the father to visit said child during reasonable hours.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT NEITHER PARTY marry again except to the other until sixty days after this date and that if an appeal be taken within said sixty days that neither shall marry except to the other during the pendency of such appeal and in no case until after all costs of this cause have been paid.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Respondent pay the costs of this proceeding, for which execution may issue.

DONE AT MONROEVILLE, Alabama this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1935.

*J. W. Hare*

Judge of the Circuit Court of  
Baldwin County, Alabama.

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RECORDED

BERTHA M. LAWRENCE,  
Complainant

versus

OSWALT W. LAWRENCE,  
Respondent.

D E C R E E .

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RECORDED  
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EQUITY.

BERTHA LAWRENCE,  
Complainant

VERSUS

OSWALD LAWRENCE,  
Respondent.

ANSWER AND WAIVER.

Filed  
*Richard Smith*  
1913

CLERK