

2912

DIVORCE DECREE

Printed by Moore Ptg. Co.

The State of Alabama, Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

ROSIE MAE MERRITT, Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHWELL MERRITT, Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, Decree Pro Confesso on Respondent's ans. and waiver 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 Court that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between the Complainant and Defendant be, and the same are hereby, dissolved, and that the said ROSIE MAE MERRITT is forever divorced from the said HERMAN LOTHWELL MERRITT for and on account of

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that Complainant be and she hereby is granted the right to resume her maiden name, ~~Mrs.~~ Rosie Mae Millines.

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that neither party to this suit shall again marry except to each other until sixty days after the rendition of this decree, and that if appeal is taken within sixty days, neither party shall again marry except to each other during the pendency of said appeal.

It is further ordered that the Complainant and Respondent be, and they are hereby permitted to again contract marriage upon the payment of the cost of this suit.

It is further ordered that Rosie Mae Merritt the Complainant pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This 17th day of November, 1952.

Telfair J. Mashburn, Jr. Judge Circuit Court, In Equity.

I, Alice J. Duck, Register of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original decree rendered by the Judge of the Circuit Court in the above stated cause, which said decree is on file and enrolled in my office.

Witness my hand and seal this the 17th day of November, 1952.

Alice J. Duck Register of Circuit Court, In Equity.

No. 2917 Page \_\_\_\_\_

The State of Alabama  
Baldwin County

In Circuit Court, In Equity

ROSIE MAE HERRITT

Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL HERRITT

Respondent

**DIVORCE DECREE**

Arthur C. Epperson  
Attorney at Law  
Foley, Alabama

The State of Alabama, Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

ROSIE MAE MERRITT, Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT, Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, ~~Declaratory Judgment~~ on Respondent's ans and waiver 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 Court that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between the Complainant and Defendant be, and the same are hereby, dissolved, and that the said ROSIE MAE MERRITT is forever divorced from the said HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT for and on account of

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that Complainant be and she hereby is granted the right to resume her maiden name, which is Rosie Mae Millines.

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that neither party to this suit shall again marry except to each other until sixty days after the rendition of this decree, and that if appeal is taken within sixty days, neither party shall again marry except to each other during the pendency of said appeal.

It is further ordered that the Complainant and Respondent be, and they are hereby permitted to again contract marriage upon the payment of the cost of this suit.

It is further ordered that Rosie Mae Merritt the Complainant pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This 17th day of November, 1952.

J. J. ... Judge Circuit Court, In Equity.

I, ... Register of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original decree rendered by the Judge of the Circuit Court in the above stated cause, which said decree is on file and enrolled in my office.

Witness my hand and seal this the ... day of ..., 19....

Register of Circuit Court, In Equity.

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

The State of Alabama  
Baldwin County

In Circuit Court, In Equity

ROSIE MAE MERRITT

Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT

Respondent

**DIVORCE DECREE**

**FILED**  
NOV 17 1952

ALICE J. DUCK, Register

Arthur C. Epperson  
Attorney at Law  
Foley, Alabama

**THE STATE OF ALABAMA**  
Baldwin County.

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama  
(In Equity)

ROSIE MAE MERRITT Complainant

VS.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT Respondent

I, Dixie A. Peterson

as Register and Commissioner in the above style cause

have called and caused to come before me Rosie Mae Merritt and  
Cletter B. Lord

witness<sup>es</sup> named in the Requirement for Oral Examination, on the 10th day of November  
1945, at the office of Dixie A. Peterson

in Foley, Alabama, and having first sworn said Witness<sup>es</sup> to speak the  
truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the said Rosie Mae Merritt and  
Cletter B. Lord doth depose and say as follows:

My name is Rosie Mae Merritt, I am over the age of twenty-one years. I am, and have been, a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama for more than two (2) years before filing for this divorce. Herman Lothell Merritt is over the age of twenty-one years and is a resident of Escambia County, Alabama. He and I were married on the 13th day of October, 1951, at Pascagoula, Mississippi. We do not have any children. I knew and had dated Herman when I lived at Castleberry, Alabama, before I moved to Elberta, Alabama. Herman came to Elberta, to visit his cousin and I dated him several times. He wanted to get married so we just went on over to Pascagoula and got married. We came back to Elberta and the next day he went back to Castleberry. He was supposed to get us a place to live and a job there. But he never did either one. He never did even write to me or come back to Elberta. He left me of his own free will and without fault on my part. We have not lived together or in any way recognized each other as husband or wife, and he has not supported me in any way.

*Rosie Mae Merritt*

My name is Cletter B. Lord, and Rosie Mae Merritt is my sister. I live in Elberta, Alabama, close to my sister. She has been living with our mother, in Elberta, Alabama, and has not been supported by, or lived with, Herman Lothell Merritt ever, that I know of, since their marriage.

*Cletter B Lord*

**ORAL EXAMINATION.**

I, Dixie A. Peterson, as Register and Commissioner hereby certify that the foregoing deposition on Oral Examination was taken down by me in writing in the words of the witness es and read over to them and they signed the same in the presence of myself Dixie A. Peterson

at the time and place herein mentioned; that I have personal knowledge of personal identity of said witness es or had proom 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 10th day of November, 1945

Dixie A. Peterson (L. S.)

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

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY.

ROSIE MAE HERRITT

vs. Complainant

HERMAN LOTTIE L. HERRITT  
Respondent.

**Oral Deposition**

Filed \_\_\_\_\_, 1945

Register.

**FILED**  
Recorded in

NOV 12 1952  
Record

Vol. After 1 389K Page \_\_\_\_\_

389K, Register  
Register.

ROSIE MAE MERRITT

Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT

Respondent

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
IN EQUITY

No. ....

### DEMAND FOR ORAL EXAMINATION

COMES the Complainant, by attorney, and represents to the Court as follows:

1. That the following named witnesses reside within one hundred miles from BAY  
MINETTE, in the County of BALDWIN  
Alabama, the place of trial of said cause, to-wit: BAY MINETTE

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. That said Complainant requires an oral examination of said witnesses before a Commissioner appointed by the Register of this Court.

*Arthur C. Epperson*  
Solicitor for Complainant

NOTE:

Complainant suggests the name of DIXIE A. PETERSON  
as a suitable and competent person to act as commissioner upon the examination of said witnesses.

*Arthur C. Epperson*  
Solicitor for Complainant.

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DEMAND FOR ORAL EXAMINATION

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ROSIE MAE MERRITT

Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT

Respondent

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN EQUITY

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Filed this 10 day of November

1942

W. J. Moore Register  
Moore Printing Co.



ROSIE MAE MERRITT  
Complainant  
vs.  
HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT  
Respondent

CIRCUIT COURT IN EQUITY  
BALDWIN COUNTY,  
ALABAMA

To the Honorable Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, sitting in Equity:

Your Complainant, Rosie Mae Merritt, respectfully represents and shows unto your Honor:

1. That your Complainant is over the age of twenty-one years and is present of said State and County, and has been one year resident of said state for more than two (2) years next preceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint, and that the Respondent, is over the age of twenty-one years at Castleberry, Escambia County, Alabama.
2. That the Complainant and Respondent were lawfully married on or about, to-wit, October 13, 1951, at Pascagoula, Mississippi.
3. Complainant further avers that said respondent voluntarily abandoned the bed and board of complainant for more than one (1) year next preceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint, since which time complainant and respondent have not lived together nor in any way recognized each other as husband and wife.

The premises considered, your Complainant makes the said Herman Lothell Merritt a party respondent to this Bill of Complaint, and in order that the Complainant may have the relief herein prayed for, may it please your Honor to cause the State's writ of subpoena to be issued, directed to the said Herman Lothell Merritt, commanding him to answer, plead or demur to this Bill of Complaint, within the time required by law; and that on a final hearing of this cause, that your Honor will enter a decree divorcing your complainant from the said respondent, granting the complainant such relief as unto your Honor may seem just and proper, and your complainant will ever pray.

Respondent's address: J.W. Merritt, R.F.D. Castleberry, Alabama.

Arthur C. Spencer  
Solicitor for Complainant

NO. 215  
RECORDED

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
 HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT  
 ROSIE MAE MERRITT  
 JAMES S. HAYES, CLERK

RECORDED

\*\*\*\*\*  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

\*\*\*\*\*  
IN EQUITY  
\*\*\*\*\*  
ROSIE MAE MERRITT  
Complainant

vs.

\*\*\*\*\*  
HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT  
Respondent  
\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*  
BILL OF COMPLAINT  
\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

FILED  
OCT 20 1952  
CLERK OF COURT  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Arthur C. Epperson  
Attorney at Law  
Foley, Alabama

TRINER MAY 1950  
COMPLAINT  
MERRITT  
MERRITT

CIRCUIT COURT IN EQUITY  
BALDWIN COUNTY,  
ALABAMA

Attorneys:  
Respondent's attorney: W. H. Merritt, W. H. W. Merritt, B. D. Orelberry,  
Merritt

Attorney for Respondent  
Merritt

ROSIE MAE MERRITT  
Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT  
Respondent

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN EQUITY

Comes the respondent, Herman Lothell Merritt, and for answer to the bill of complaint herein says as follows:

1. He denies each and every material allegation contained in said bill of complaint and demands strict proof of the same.

2. The respondent hereby waives notice of the taking of testimony in this cause, notice of submitting said cause for final decree, and such other, further or different notice to which he might otherwise be entitled.

Herman Lothell Merritt  
Respondent

J W Merritt  
Witness

John E. Pritchett  
Witness

RECORDED

\*\*\*\*\*

ANSWER AND WAIVER

\*\*\*\*\*

ROSIE MAE MERRITT  
Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT  
Respondent

\*\*\*\*\*

FILED  
NOV 12 1952  
ALICE A. DUCK, Register

Arthur C. Epperson  
Attorney at Law  
Foley, Alabama

ROSIE MAE MERRITT

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin County

IN EQUITY  
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

This cause is submitted in behalf of Complaint upon the original Bill of Complaint, Demand for oral deposition, Commission to take deposition, oral deposition of complainant, witnesses, and respondent's answer and waiver.

and ~~in behalf of Defendant upon~~

*Archie J. Newsham*  
Register

*Arthur L. Epperson*  
Attorney for Complainant  
Register

No. ....

**THE STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Baldwin County**

**IN EQUITY**  
**Circuit Court of Baldwin County**

ROSE MAE MERRITT

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT

**NOTE OF TESTIMONY**

Filed in Open Court this 11<sup>th</sup> .....

day of November, 1962.

Alisa J. Jones  
Register.

The State of Alabama, \_\_\_\_\_ County

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

To any Sheriff of the State of Alabama—Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon Herman Lothell Merritt

to appear and answer, plead, or demur, within thirty days from the service hereof, to a Bill of Complaint filed in said Circuit Court, in equity, for said County of said State \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

Rosie Mae Merritt

against Herman Lothell Merritt

Herein fail not. Due return make of this writ as the law directs.

Witness this 20th day of October, 1932

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Register.

(Defendant is entitled to a copy of the bill on application to the Register.)

The State of Alabama

..... COUNTY.

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

vs.

SUMMONS

Returned by the Sheriff and filed in office, this  
the ..... day of ....., 19.....  
....., Register.

Received in office, this the ..... day of  
....., 19.....  
....., Sheriff.

I have executed the within by leaving a copy  
thereof with.....

defendant named herein, on this the.....  
day of....., 19.....  
....., Sheriff.  
By....., Deputy.



ROSIE MAE MERRITT  
Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT  
Respondent

CIRCUIT COURT IN EQUITY  
BALDWIN COUNTY,  
ALABAMA

To the Honorable Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin  
County, sitting in Equity:

Your Complainant, Rosie Mae Merritt, respectfully repre-  
sents and shows unto your Honor:

1. That your Complainant is over the age of twenty-one  
(21) years and is a resident of said State and County, and has  
been a bona fide resident of said state for more than two (2)  
years next preceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint; that  
Herman Lothell Merritt, the respondent, is over the age of twen-  
ty-one (21) years and resides at Castleberry, Escambia County,  
Alabama.

2. That the Complainant and Respondent were lawfully married  
on or about, to-wit, October 13, 1951, at Pascagoula, Mississippi.

~~3. Complainant further avers that said respondent volun-~~  
tarily abandoned the bed and board of complainant for more than  
one (1) year next preceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint,  
since which time complainant and respondent have not lived to-  
gether nor in any way recognized each other as husband and wife.

The premises considered, your Complainant makes the said  
Herman Lothell Merritt a party respondent to this Bill of Com-  
plaint, and in order that the Complainant may have the relief here-  
in prayed for, may it please your Honor to cause the State's writ  
of subpoena to be issued, directed to the said Herman Lothell  
Merritt, commanding him to answer, plead or demur to this Bill  
of Complaint, within the time required by law; and that on a  
final hearing of this cause, that your Honor will enter a decree  
divorcing your complainant from the said respondent, granting  
the complainant such relief as unto your Honor may seem just and  
proper, and your complainant will ever pray.

Respondent's address: % J.W. Merritt, R.F.D. Castleberry,  
Alabama.

*Arthur C. Jefferson*  
Solicitor for Complainant

Received in Sheriff's Office  
this 20 day of Oct, 1952  
TAYLOR WILKINS, Sheriff

No. 2917

\*\*\*\*\*  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
IN EQUITY  
\*\*\*\*\*

ROSIE MAE MERRITT  
Complainant

VS.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT  
Respondent

\*\*\*\*\*

BILL OF COMPLAINT

\*\*\*\*\*

*90 D. W. Merritt  
Castleberry Ala.*

**FILED**  
OCT 20 1952  
ALICE L. DUCK, Registrar

Arthur C. Epperson  
Attorney at Law  
Foley, Alabama

Not found in my County  
This the 18th day of December  
1952.

JOHN H. BROCK, SHERIFF  
BY Ralph Crussell  
DEPUTY SHERIFF

*[Faint, mostly illegible text in the right-hand column, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

The State of Alabama, \_\_\_\_\_ County

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

To any Sheriff of the State of Alabama—Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon Herman Lothell Merritt

to appear and answer, plead, or demur, within thirty days from the service hereof, to a Bill of Complaint filed in said Circuit Court, in equity, for said County of said State \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

Rosie Mae Merritt

against Herman Lothell Merritt

Herein fail not. Due return make of this writ as the law directs.

Witness this 20th day of October, 1952

Rosie Mae Merritt, Register.

(Defendant is entitled to a copy of the bill on application to the Register.)

The State of Alabama

..... COUNTY.

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

vs.

SUMMONS

Returned by the Sheriff and filed in office, this

the ..... day of ....., 19.....

....., Register.

Received in office, this the ..... day of

....., 19.....

....., Sheriff.

I have executed the within by leaving a copy

thereof with.....

defendant named herein, on this the.....

day of....., 19.....

....., Sheriff.

By....., Deputy.

ROSIE MAE MERRITT  
Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT  
Respondent

CIRCUIT COURT IN EQUITY

BALDWIN COUNTY,

ALABAMA

To the Honorable Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin  
County, sitting in Equity:

Your Complainant, Rosie Mae Merritt, respectfully repre-  
sents and shows unto your Honor:

1. That your Complainant is over the age of twenty-one  
(21) years and is a resident of said State and County, and has  
been a bona fide resident of said state for more than two (2)  
years next preceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint; that  
Herman Lothell Merritt, the respondent, is over the age of twen-  
ty-one (21) years and resides at Castleberry, Escambia County,  
Alabama.

2. That the Complainant and Respondent were lawfully married  
on or about, to-wit, October 13, 1951, at Pascagoula, Mississippi.

3. Complainant further avers that said respondent volun-  
tarily abandoned the bed and board of complainant for more than  
one (1) year next preceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint,  
since which time complainant and respondent have not lived together  
either nor in any way recognized each other as husband and wife.

The premises considered, your Complainant prays that  
Herman Lothell Merritt a party respondent to this Bill of Complaint,  
and in order that the Complainant may have the relief herein  
in prayed for, may it please your Honor to cause the State of  
Alabama to be subpoena to be issued, directed to the said Herman Lothell  
Merritt, commanding him to answer, plead or demur to this Bill  
of Complaint, within the time required by law; and that on a  
final hearing of this cause, that your Honor will enter a Decree  
divorcing your complainant from the said respondent, granting  
the complainant such relief as unto your Honor may seem just and  
proper, and your complainant will ever pray.

Respondent's address: % J.W. Merritt, R.F.D. Castleberry,  
Alabama.

*Arthur L. Epperson*  
Solicitor for Complainant

ROSCOE V. MERRITT  
Escambia County  
Alabama  
Baldwin County  
Alabama  
Herman Lothell Merritt  
Respondent  
Escambia County  
Alabama  
No. 11/5/51

SOLICITOR FOR COMPLAINT

MOBILE

ARTHUR C. EPPERSON, Attorney at Law, Foley, Alabama

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, County of Baldwin, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears of record in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, this 15th day of August, 1912.

No. 2912 -

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN EQUITY

ROSIE MAE MERRITT  
Complainant

vs.

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT  
Respondent

BILL OF COMPLAINT

Arthur C. Epperson  
Attorney at Law  
Foley, Alabama

ROSE MAE MERRITT, complainant, vs. HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT, respondent. This bill of complaint is filed in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, this 15th day of August, 1912, for the purpose of recovering the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and costs of suit from the respondent, who is indebted to the complainant for the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and costs of suit. The complainant claims that the respondent has failed to pay to her the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and costs of suit which she is entitled to receive from him for the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and costs of suit. The complainant claims that the respondent has failed to pay to her the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and costs of suit which she is entitled to receive from him for the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and costs of suit. The complainant claims that the respondent has failed to pay to her the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and costs of suit which she is entitled to receive from him for the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and costs of suit.

ATTEST: CLERK OF COURT

ARTHUR C. EPPERSON  
Attorney at Law  
Foley, Alabama

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
Baldwin County.

CIRCUIT COURT

TO: Dixie A. Peterson  
Route 1, box 23  
Foley, Alabama

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

ROSIE MAE MERRITT

AND

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT

as witnesses in behalf of ROSIE MAE MERRITT in a cause pending in our Circuit Court in Baldwin County, of said State, wherein

ROSIE MAE MERRITT

Complainant

and

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT

Respondent

on oath, to be by you administered, upon 10th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1952

to take and certify the deposition of the witness and return the same to our Court, with all convenient speed, under your hand.

Witness 10th day of November, 1952

*Alice J. ...*

Register.

Commissioner's Fee, \$

Witness' Fees, \$

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

**THE STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Baldwin County**

**CIRCUIT COURT**

ROSIE MAE MERRITT

Complainant—

**vs.**

HERMAN LOTHELL MERRITT

Defendant—

**COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION**

COMMISSIONER

Dixie A. Peterson

WITNESSES:

Rosie Mae Merritt

Cletter B. Lord

2912