

DIVORCE DECREE

MOORE PRINTING COMPANY - BAY MINETTE, ALA.

4754

The State of Alabama, Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

ANNA STEVENS, Complainant

vs.

JOSH STEVENS, Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, Decree Pro Confesso on PERSONAL SERVICE 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 Anna Stevens is forever divorced from the said Josh Stevens for and on account of Non-support.

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 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 payment of the cost of this suit.

It is further ordered that Anna Stevens the Complainant pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which executed may issue.

This 28 day of November 1960

Robert M. Moore

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

Complainant

vs.

Respondent

DIVORCE DECREE

FILED

NOV 28 1900

ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK
REGISTER

COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITIONS

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
Baldwin County

Circuit Court

TO: HELEN MCDOWELL

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

ANNA STEVENS

AND

JOHN MITCHELL

a witness in behalf of ANNA STEVENS
Circuit Court in Baldwin County, of said State, wherein

in a cause pending in our

ANNA STEVENS

, Complainant

and

JOSH STEVENS

Respondent

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

Witness 13 day of

Jan

, 1960

David J. Ruck
Register.

Commissioner's Fee, \$

Witness' Fees, \$

No.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT

ANNA STEVENS

Complainant

VS.

JOSH STEVENS

Defendant

COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION

COMMISSIONER:

HELEN MCDOWELL

WITNESSES:

ANNA STEVENS
JOHN MITCHELL

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,
BALDWIN COUNTY

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama
(In Equity)

ANNA STEVENS

COMPLAINANT

vs.

JOSH STEVENS

RESPONDENT

I, Helen McDowell

as Register and Commissioner

have called and caused to come before me Anna Stevens

witness named in the requirement for Oral Examination, on the _____ day of _____

19____, at the office of Thompson & White

in Bay Minette, Alabama, and having first sworn said witness to speak the

truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the said Anna Stevens

doth depose and say as follows:

IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS BY C. LENOIR THOMPSON, ATTORNEY FOR COMPLAINANT:

My name is Anna Stevens. I am over the age of 21 and have been a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, all my life. The Respondent Josh Stevens, is over the age of 21 and is presently residing in the State Hospital for Negroes at Mt. Vernon, Alabama. The Complainant and the Respondent were married in Bay Minette, Alabama, on September 24, 1944, and lived together as husband and wife until our separation occurred on July 13, 1956. That since this date her husband, the Respondent, Josh Stevens, has failed to support her or her children, Josh Stevens, Jr. age about 14, Claudia Mae Stevens, age about 10, Rosie Lee Stevens age about 9, born as fruits of this marriage and they have not lived together as husband and wife since the said separation, which occurred on July 13, 1956, without fault on her part. Your Complainant shows that she has had the care, custody and control of these children since birth and further shows that she is a fit, suitable and proper person to have the permanent care, custody and control of these children and respectfully asks that this Honorable Court decree their custody to her. The Respondent has not supported the Complainant since 1952 and your Complainant shows that she does not believe that they will ever live together again as husband and wife.

IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS BY ATTORNEY, WILSON HAYES, GUARDIAN AD LITEM, FOR THE RESPONDENT:

My husband had not supported me regularly for over four years before July 13, 1956, and since that date he hasn't given me any money at all. Part of that time he has been in the State Hospital at Mt. Vernon and part of the time he has been out, but he did not support me when he was out and he did not support our children.

Anna Stevens

I, Helen McDowell 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 witness and read over to her and she signed the same in the presence of myself and Mary Thompson White and Wilson Hayes at the time and place herein mentioned; that I have personal knowledge of personal identity of said witness or had proof made before me of the identity of said witness; 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 _____ day of _____, 19____.

Helen McDowell (L. S.)

No. _____	Page _____
THE STATE OF ALABAMA BALDWIN COUNTY	
IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY	
ANNA STEVENS	COMPLAINANT
vs.	
JOSH STEVENS	RESPONDENT
ORAL DEPOSITION	
Filed _____	19____
RECORDED IN _____	Register.
Record _____	
Vol. _____	Page _____
Register.	

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,
BALDWIN COUNTY

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama
(In Equity)

ANNA STEVENS

COMPLAINANT

vs.

JOSH STEVENS

RESPONDENT

I, Helen McDowell

as Register and Commissioner

have called and caused to come before me John Mitchell

witness _____ named in the requirement for Oral Examination, on the _____ day of _____
19____, at the office of Thompson & White
in Bay Minette, Alabama, and having first sworn said witness _____ to speak the
truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the said John Mitchell

doth depose and say as follows:
IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS BY C. LENOIR THOMPSON, ATTORNEY FOR COM-
PLAINANT:

My name is John Mitchell. I know both parties to this cause. They are both over the age of 21 and are residents of the State of Alabama. They were married in Bay Minette, Alabama, September 24, 1944, and lived together as husband and wife until 1952 when they were separated from time to time. The latest separation occurred on or about July 13, 1956, and they have not lived together as husband and wife since that date. Since that separation, the Respondent has not furnished any support to the Complainant of which I know since I live nearby. There are three children born as fruits of their marriage being: Josh Stevens, Jr., age about 14, Claudia Mae Stevens, age about 10, Rosie Lee Stevens, age about 9. The said Anna Stevens has had the care, custody and control of these children since birth and since Josh Stevens has not supported them since about 1952, I respectfully represent to this Honorable Court that Anna Stevens is a fit, suitable and proper person to have the permanent care, custody and control of these children. I do not believe that Anna Stevens and Josh Stevens will ever live together as husband and wife again.

IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS BY ATTORNEY, WILSON HAYES, GUARDIAN AD LITEM,
FOR THE RESPONDENT:

Beginning about 1952 Anna Stevens was having to make out the best she could as Josh quit supporting her some time before, but after 1952 didn't give her anything as far as I know. Then he went to the State Hospital at Mt. Vernon and got out awhile after that, but he failed or refused to support Anna or the children. Since he went back in the hospital he could not support her because he did not have any property that she could sell to take care of herself.

John Mitchell

I, Helen McDowell 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 witness _____ and read over to him and he signed the same in the presence of myself and Mary Thompson White and Wilson Hayes at the time and place herein mentioned; that I have personal knowledge of personal identity of said witness _____ or had proof made before me of the identity of said witness _____; 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 _____ day of _____, 19____.

Helen McDowell (L. S.)

No. _____	Page _____
THE STATE OF ALABAMA BALDWIN COUNTY	
IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY	
ANNA STEVENS	COMPLAINANT
vs.	
JOSH STEVENS	RESPONDENT
ORAL DEPOSITION	
Filed _____	19____
RECORDED IN	Register.
Record	
Vol. _____	Page _____
Register.	

ANNA STEVENS

vs.

JOSH STEVENS

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, _____

~~Decree pro confesso on personal service and testimony of~~

Anna Stevens and John Mitchell.

and in behalf of Defendant upon _____

Thompson & White

Wince J. - [unclear]

Register.

m

No.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA

Baldwin County

IN EQUITY

Circuit Court of Baldwin County

ANNA STEVENS

vs.

JOSH STEVENS

NOTE OF TESTIMONY

Filed in Open Court

day of _____, 194

FILED
JAN 13 1940
ALICE L. DIX, CLERK
REGISTER

Register.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,
Baldwin County

No. _____ Circuit Court, In Equity.

ANNA STEVENS

Complainant

Vs.

JOSH STEVENS

Defendant

Motion is hereby made for a Decree Pro Confesso against

JOSH STEVENS

Defendant

in the above stated cause, on the ground that more than thirty days have elapsed since service of summons upon said Defendant; and that said summons was duly served according to law, and that said Defendant... ha S failed to demur, plead to or answer the Bill of Complaint in this cause to this date.

This 17 day of

Jan 2016

C. L. Davis
Solicitor.

No. _____ Page _____

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
BALDWIN COUNTY

Circuit Court, In Equity

ANNA STEVENS

Vs.

JOSH STEVENS

Motion for Decree Pro Confesso on
Personal Service

Filed 1-17 1960

W. J. H. H. H.
Register.

Recorded in _____ Record

Vol. _____ Page _____

Register.

STATE OF ALABAMA
BALDWIN COUNTY

TO ANY SHERIFF OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA:

You are hereby commanded to summon JOSH STEVENS, to appear and plead, answer or demur within thirty days from the service hereof, to the bill of complaint filed in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, in equity by ANNA STEVENS, as complainant, and against JOSH STEVENS, as respondent.

WITNESS my hand this the 30 day of Oct 1959,
1959.

Alvin J. Rucker

Register.

ANNA STEVENS	X	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
COMPLAINANT	X	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
VS	X	IN EQUITY.
JOSH STEVENS	X	CASE NO. _____
RESPONDENT	X	

TO HONORABLE HUBERT M. HALL, JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA:

Your Complainant, Anna Stevens, respectfully represents unto Your Honor and this Honorable Court as follows:

-1-

That your Complainant is over the age of 21 and a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and has been all her life; the Respondent is over the age of 21 and is presently residing in the State hospital for Negroes in Mt. Vernon, Alabama.

-2-

That your Complainant and the Respondent married in Bay Minette, Alabama, on September 24, 1944, and lived together as husband and wife until our separation occurred on July 13, 1956.

-3-

The Complainant further shows unto the Court that she has lived separate and apart from the bed and board of Josh Stevens, her said husband, for two years and without support from him for two years next preceding the filing of this bill and during said period she has been a bona fide resident in the State.

-4-

There are no children as fruits of this marriage and no property to be divided.

WHEREFORE, the premises considered, your Complainant prays that Your Honor will by proper procedure make the said Josh Stevens, party respondent to this bill of complaint requiring 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.

Your complainant further prays that upon a hearing hereof, Your Honor will enter an order and decree granting to her an absolute decree of divorce, forever barring the bonds of matrimony existing between her and the respondent; your complainant prays for such other further, different or general relief as she may be in equity and good conscience entitled to receive.

THOMPSON & WHITE

BY:

C. A. Thompson
Solicitors for Complainant

FILED

OCT 30 1933

ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK & REGISTER

ed
1848

no. 4754 91

Anna Stevens

^{2x}/_{gas} vs
Josh Stevens
Dr. H.S. Rowe, Supt.

EXECUTED

This 2 day of Nov, 1959

by serving a copy of the within on
Dr. H.S. Rowe as Supt. of Seaman
Hospital for Josh Stevens
RAY D. BRIDGES, Sheriff

By S. R. Jackson D.S.

Inmate Hospital
Mt Vernon, Ala.

FILED
10-30-59
PALICE J. DICK, CLERK
REGISTER

Faint, illegible text from the reverse side of the document, appearing as bleed-through.

AMENDED COMPLAINT

ANNA STEVENS

COMPLAINANT

VS

JOSH STEVENS

RESPONDENT

X
X
X
X
X

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN EQUITY.

CASE NO. 4754

Comes the Complainant in the above styled cause and amends Count four of said complaint to read as follows:

-4-

There were three children born as fruits of this marriage, Josh Stevens, Jr. age about 14, Claudia Mae Stevens, age about 10, Rosie Lee Stevens, age about 9, and no property to be divided. These children are presently in the care, custody and control of your Complainant.

WHEREFORE, the premises considered, your Complainant prays that your Honor will by proper procedure make the said JOSH STEVENS, party Respondent to this bill of complaint requiring 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.

Your Complainant further prays that upon a hearing hereof, your Honor will enter an order and decree granting to her an absolute decree of divorce, forever barring the bonds of matrimony existing between her and the Respondent; That a decree be made awarding to the Complainant the care, custody and control of the minor children, Josh Stevens, Jr. age about 14, Claudia Mae Stevens age about 10, Rosie Lee Stevens age about 9, and your Complainant prays for such other, further, different or general relief as she may be in equity and good conscience entitled to receive.

THOMPSON & WHITE

By: C. LeDion Thompson
Solicitors for the Complainant.

FILED
DEC 8 1959
ANGEL DUCK, CLERK
REGISTER

CD
~~110~~ 70.4754
1911
Anna Stevens
197
D.S.
Josh Stevens

Received 9 day of Dec 1959
on 22 day of December 1959
I received a copy of the within A.C.
Josh Stevens
service on Josh Stevens

TAYLOR WILKINS, Sheriff
By S. R. Jackson, S.

22+
Jac

RETURNED 12-15-59
Not found in my County after dili-
gent search and inquiry.
RAY D. BRIDGES, Sheriff
By S. R. Jackson D.S.

FILED
DEC 8 1959
ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK
REGISTER

ANNA STEVENS
 Complainant,
 Vs.
JOSH STEVENS
 Respondent,

In the Circuit Court.
 In Equity No. _____

DECREE PRO CONFESSO ON PERSONAL SERVICE

In this cause, it appears to the Register, that service was had on the Respondent _____

JOSH STEVENS

by the Sheriff of BALDWIN County, on the 2nd day of November

19 59.

And it futher appears to the Register, that the said _____

JOSH STEVENS

_____ the Respondent, having to the date hereof,

failed to plead, demur to or answer the Bill of Complaint filed in this cause, it is now, therefore,

on motion of Thompson & White Solicitors

for Complainant, ordered, and decreed by the Register that the Bill of Complaint in this cause be,

and it hereby is, in all things taken as confessed against the said _____

JOSH STEVENS

This 12 day of Jan, 1960.

Beirg J. White
 Register.

No. _____

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

ANNA STEVENS

Complainant,

Vs.

JOSH STEVENS

Respondent.

**DECREE PRO CONFESSO ON
PERSONAL SERVICE**

Issued this _____ day of _____

19.....

Register.

ANNA STEVENS	X	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
COMPLAINANT	X	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
VS	X	IN EQUITY.
JOSH STEVENS	X	CASE NO. 4754
RESPONDENT	X	

Upon consideration of the complaint filed herein the Court is of the opinion that a guardian ad litem should be appointed to represent the said Josh Stevens, respondent in the above styled cause, said respondent being presently confined in the insane hospital for Negroes at Mt. Vernon, Alabama. It is therefore, ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court as follows:

-1-

That Wilson Hayes, attorney be appointed to represent the said Josh Stevens, respondent in said cause.

-2-

That the Register give notice to the guardian ad litem of the appointment and that the said guardian ad litem be notified of the time and place for the taking of testimony in said cause.

ORDERED AND DECREED this 5 day of February, 1960.

Hubert M. Lee
Circuit Judge in Equity Sitting

Comes Wilson Hayes, attorney and accepts the appointment as guardian ad litem of the said Josh Stevens, respondent in said cause.

Wilson Hayes

