

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, BALDWIN COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

Complainant William Odie Ross

VS.

Respondent Clara Curtis Davis Ross

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, Decree Pro Confesso

Answer 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 here-

fore existing between the Complainant and Defendant be, and the same are hereby, dissolved,

and that the said William Odie Ross

is forever divorced from the said Clara Curtis Davis Ross

for and on account of Abandonment

[Empty lines for additional text]

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 William Odie Ross

pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This 11th day of May 1945

[Handwritten signature]

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

1331

No. 1331 Page \_\_\_\_\_

**The State of Alabama**  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

William Odis Ross

vs. Complainant

Clara Curtis Davis Ross

Respondent

**DIVORCE DECREE**

Filed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 194\_\_\_\_

Register

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Clara Curtis Davis Ross

VS.

William Odis Ross

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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, \_\_\_\_\_  
Oral Depositions, Demand for Oral Testimony, Commission to take Testimony

and in behalf of Defendant upon \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer and Waiver

\_\_\_\_\_ Register.

No. 1331

The State of Alabama,  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN EQUITY

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY

CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS

VS.

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS

NOTE OF TESTIMONY

Filed in Open Court this 10

day of May 1945

Andrew

Register.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT

TO Alica A. Christian

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 William Odis Ross and Hessie Campbell

as witnesses in behalf of William Odis Ross in a cause pending in our Circuit Court of Baldwin County, of said State, wherein William Odis Ross

Complainant  
and Clara Curtis Davis Ross

Defendant,  
on oath to be by you administered, upon William Odis Ross and Hessie Campbell

to take and certify the deposition <sup>s</sup> of the witness<sup>es</sup> and return the same to our Court, with all convenient speed, under your hand.

Witness 7 day of May, 1945.

May

REGISTER

Commissioner's Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Witness' Fees, \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NO. 1331

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin County  
CIRCUIT COURT

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS

Complainant

VS.

CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS

Defendant

Commission To Take Deposition

COMMISSIONER:

Alicia A. Christian

Witnesses:

William Odis Ross

Hessie Campbell

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS  
Complainant,  
VS.  
CLARA CURRIS DAVIS ROSS  
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: William Odis Ross and Hessie Campbell

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....;

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

*Joseph P. Oliver*  
Solicitor for Complainant.

NOTE:

Complainant suggests the name of Alica A. Christian

as a suitable and competent person to act as commissioner upon the examination of said witnesses.

*Joseph P. Oliver*  
Solicitor for Complainant.

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BT-6-40-500

DEMAND FOR ORAL EXAMINATION.

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS

Complainant,

Vs.

CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS

Respondent.

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

Filed this *17* day of *May*

1943

*Robert*

Register.



THE STATE OF ALABAMA, )  
BALDWIN COUNTY, )

TO ANY SHERIFF OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA -- GREETING:

WE COMMAND YOU, that you summon Clara Curtis Davis Ross, to be and appear before the Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, exercising chancery jurisdiction within thirty days after the service of the summons, and there to answer, plead or demur without oath to a bill of complaint, lately exhibited by William Odis Ross, against the said Clara Curtis Davis Ross, and further to do and perform what the said Judge shall order and direct in that behalf, and this the Respondent shall in no wise omit, under penalty of the law, And we further command that you return this writ with your execution thereof.

WITNESS, R. S. Duck, Register of said Court, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of ~~April~~, 1945.

Register

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, )  
Complainant )  
vs. )  
CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, )  
Respondent )

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

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

Your Complainant, William Odis Ross, a resident citizen of Baldwin County, Alabama, over the age of twenty-one years, respectfully shows unto your Honor that on or about May 15, 1931, Complainant intermarried with said Clara Curtis Davis Ross, at Pensacola, Florida, and they lived together as man and wife until March 30, 1944, most of the time residing in Baldwin County, Alabama, and Complainant has been a bona fide resident citizen of Alabama for one year next preceding the filing of this bill.

2. Respondent, more than one year next preceding the filing of this bill of complaint, did voluntarily abandon the bed and board of complainant, and said abandonment has been voluntary and continuous to the date hereof.

3. The premises considered, Complainant prays for a subpoena, directed to the said Clara Curtis Davis Ross, directing her to answer the charge herein made against her, under the rules of this Court, and that she, Clara Curtis Davis Ross, be made a party respondent to this bill; and that upon a final hearing of the evidence your Honor will order, adjudge and decree that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between your Complainant and the said Clara Curtis Davis Ross be forever dissolved, and for such other relief as may in equity and good conscience be due your Complainant in the premises.

William Odis Ross,  
Complainant

Forest A. Christian,  
Forest A. Christian, Foley, Alabama  
Solicitor for Complainant

BILL OF COMPLAINT

BILL OF COMPLAINT  
 CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS,  
 Respondent,  
 vs.  
 WILLIAM ODIS ROSS,  
 Complainant.

The Complainant, WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 do hereby certify that the Respondent, CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 is a resident of the County of ... State of ...

**BILL OF COMPLAINT**

**CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS,**  
 Respondent,  
 vs.  
**WILLIAM ODIS ROSS,**  
 Complainant.

The Respondent, CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 do hereby certify that the Complainant, WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 is a resident of the County of ... State of ...

The Respondent, CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 do hereby certify that the Complainant, WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 is a resident of the County of ... State of ...

The Respondent, CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 do hereby certify that the Complainant, WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 is a resident of the County of ... State of ...

The Respondent, CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 do hereby certify that the Complainant, WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 is a resident of the County of ... State of ...

The Respondent, CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 do hereby certify that the Complainant, WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 is a resident of the County of ... State of ...

The Respondent, CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 do hereby certify that the Complainant, WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 is a resident of the County of ... State of ...

The Respondent, CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 do hereby certify that the Complainant, WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, of the County of ... State of ...  
 is a resident of the County of ... State of ...

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS,  
Complainant

vs.

CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS,  
Respondent

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN EQUITY

ANSWER

Now comes Clara Curtis Davis Ross, the Respondent named in the above entitled cause, and for answer to the Bill of Complaint filed against her herein says:

1. She admits that the Complainant is over twenty-one years of age and a bona fide resident citizen of Baldwin County, Alabama, and that she is over the age of twenty-one years and a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama.
2. The Respondent denies each and all of the other allegations of the Bill of Complaint and demands strict proof of same.
3. Respondent waives all formalities and requirements of law in connection with the taking of testimony in this cause, submission of the cause for final decree and any and all other notice or notices of every kind and nature which are or may be required in this cause.

Clara Curtis Davis Ross  
RESPONDENT

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
BALDWIN COUNTY.

I, [Signature], a Notary Public, in and for said County and State, hereby certify that Clara Curtis Davis Ross, whose name is signed to the foregoing answer and waiver, and who is known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the said answer and waiver, he executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

Given under my hand this the 7 day of May, 1945.

My commission expires:

[Signature]  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires Sept. 10, 1947

1221

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ANSWER

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS,  
Complainant

vs.

CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS,  
Respondent

*Filed May 7 1945*  
*R. H. [Signature]*  
*Pyler*

**RECORDED**

*WILLIAM ODIS ROSS*  
*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, )  
 )  
BALDWIN COUNTY. )

TO ANY SHERIFF OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA -- GREETING:

WE COMMAND YOU, that you summon Clara Curtis Davis Ross, to be and appear before the Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, exercising chancery jurisdiction within thirty days after the service of the summons, and there to answer, plead or demur without oath to a bill of complaint, lately exhibited by William Odis Ross, against the said Clara Curtis Davis Ross, and further to do and perform what the said Judge shall order and direct in that behalf, and this the Respondent shall in no wise omit, under penalty of the law. And we further command that you return this writ with your execution thereof.

WITNESS, R. S. Duck, Register of said Court, this 30 day of ~~April~~, 1945.

R. S. Duck  
Register

.....

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS, ) IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
Complainant )  
 ) BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
vs. )  
 ) IN EQUITY.  
CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS, )  
Respondent )

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

Your Complainant, William Odis Ross, a resident citizen of Baldwin County, Alabama, over the age of twenty-one years, respectfully shows unto your Honor that on or about May 15, 1931, Complainant intermarried with said Clara Curtis Davis Ross, at Pensacola, Florida, and they lived together as man and wife until March 30, 1944, most of the time residing in Baldwin County, Alabama, and Complainant has been a bona fide resident citizen of Alabama for one year next preceding the filing of this bill.

2. Respondent, more than one year next preceding the filing of this bill of complaint, did voluntarily abandon the bed and board of complainant, and said abandonment has been voluntary and continuous to the date hereof.

3. The premises considered, Complainant prays for a subpoena, directed to the said Clara Curtis Davis Ross, directing her to answer the charge herein made against her, under the rules of this Court, and that she, Clara Curtis Davis Ross, be made a party respondent to this bill; and that upon a final hearing of the evidence your Honor will order, adjudge and decree that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between your Complainant and the said Clara Curtis Davis Ross be forever dissolved, and for such other relief as may in equity and good conscience be due your Complainant in the premises.

William Odis Ross  
Complainant

Forest A. Christian  
Forest A. Christian, Foley, Alabama  
Solicitor for Complainant

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
Baldwin County.

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama  
(In Equity)

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS

Complainant

VS.

CLARA CURTIS DAVIS ROSS

Respondent

I, Alica A. Christian

~~as Register and~~ Commissioner

have called and caused to come before me William Odis Ross and Hessie Campbell

witness<sup>es</sup> named in the Requirement for Oral Examination, on the 10 day of May  
1945, at the office of Forest A. Christian  
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 William Odis Ross and Hessie  
Campbell doth depose and say as follows:

My name is William Odis Ross. I am the Complainant in the case of  
William Odis Ross vs. Clara Curtis Davis Ross. I am 34 years of age. My wife  
is 33 years of age. My wife just left me on March 30, 1944, and I don't know  
why she did. She just got up and left and said she wasn't coming back. She  
hasn't been back since. I did not consent to her leaving. She lives in Foley  
now but hasn't been to my house except once to her her clothes while I was gone.

We were married at Pensacola, on May 15, 1931, and we lived together  
as man and wife until March 30, 1944, in Foley, Alabama.

William Odis Ross  
William Odis Ross

Testimony of Hessie Campbell

My name is Hessie Campbell. I am 34 years of age. I have lived in  
Baldwin County for 17 years. I lived across the street from Odis and Clara  
Ross last year when Clara left Odis. I do not know of any reason why she should  
leave. I have not seen her at Odis' house since.

Hessie Campbell  
Hessie Campbell

**ORAL EXAMINATION.**

I, Alica A. Christian, as ~~Register and~~ Commissioner hereby certify that the foregoing deposition<sup>s</sup> on Oral Examination was taken down by me in writing in the words of the witness<sup>es</sup> and read over to them and they signed the same in the presence of myself and Forest A. Christian at the time and place herein mentioned; that I have personal knowledge of personal identity of said witness<sup>es</sup> or had proom made before me of the identity of said witness<sup>es</sup>; 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 10 day of May, 1945.

Alica A. Christian (L.S.)

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THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY.

WILLIAM ODIS ROSS

vs. Complainant

GLARA GURGIS DAVIS ROSS

Respondent.

**Oral Deposition**

Filed May 16, 1945

[Signature], Register.  
Recorded in \_\_\_\_\_

Record \_\_\_\_\_

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Register.