

(1312)

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

ERVIN P. CRAFT Complainant

VS.

Dorothy Mae Craft Respondent

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

~~for answer and~~ 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 Ervin P. Craft

is forever divorced from the said Dorothy Mae Craft

for and on account of her adultery

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 Ervin P. Craft the Complainant pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
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

vs. Complainant

Respondent

**DIVORCE DECREE**

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

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

Register

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, BALDWIN COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

ERVIN P. CRAFT

Complainant

VS.

Dorothy Mae Craft

Respondent

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

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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 Ervin P. Craft the Complainant pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1944

*F. W. Stare*

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. 1373 Page \_\_\_\_\_

**The State of Alabama**  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

vs. Complainant

Respondent

**DIVORCE DECREE**

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

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

Register

Ervin P. Craft

vs.

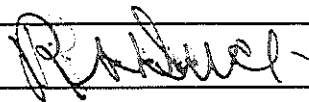
Dorothy Mae Craft

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, \_\_\_\_\_  
Answer and Depositions of Ervin P. Craft and T. E. Arendale

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



Register.

No. 1372

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

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

*Craft*

vs.

*Craft*

**NOTE OF TESTIMONY**

Filed in Open Court this 24

day of Sept, 1945

*[Signature]*  
Register.

TO THE HONORABLE FRANCIS W. HARE, JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, Sitting in Equity.

Comes now your Orator, Ervin P. Craft, who is a bona fide resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and who is over the age of 21 years, and exhibits this his bill of complaint against Dorothy Mae Craft, who, also, is a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and who is a married woman over 18 years of age, respectfully showing unto your Honor as follows, viz:

**FIRST:** That your Orator and the said Dorothy Mae Craft were married to each other in August, 1943, at Lucedale, Mississippi; and that no children were born of said marriage;

**SECOND:** That the said Dorothy Mae Craft committed adultery with Daniel W. Keller, upon towit: the 6th day of June, 1945, at the home of your Orator, at or near Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama.

Wherefore, your Orator prays that your Honor will take jurisdiction of this his Bill of Complaint and grant him relief; that your Honor will grant him a decree of divorce from the said Dorothy Mae Craft and will dissolve the bonds of matrimony now existing between the said Dorothy Mae Craft and your Orator. And if your Orator has not asked for the proper relief, then he asks for such other and further relief as the nature of his case shall require and as to your Honor may seem meet.

And your Orator also prays that your Honor will grant unto him the writ of summons of the State of Alabama, directed to the said Dorothy Mae Craft and commanding her to appear in said Court and answer, plead or demur to said Bill of Complaint, as required by law, and to stand to and abide such orders and decrees as may be rendered in said cause.

And your Orator will ever pray, etc.

Jesse F. Hagan

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Solicitor for Complainant

Dorothy Mae Craft lives with Mrs. Roberts about 1 and 1/2 miles east of Fairhope.

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, { No. 1372  
BALDWIN COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT BALDWIN COUNTY

July TERM, 1945

TO ANY SHERIFF OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA:

You are hereby commanded to summon Dorothy Mae Craft

to appear and plead, answer or demur, within thirty days from the service hereof, to the Complaint filed in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, State of Alabama, at Bay Minette, against

Dorothy Mae Craft Respondent

by Erwin P. Craft

Complainant

Witness my hand this 18th day of July 1945

*[Signature]* Register  
Clerk.



RECORDED

No. 1372 Page \_\_\_\_\_

**THE STATE OF ALABAMA**  
BALDWIN COUNTY

**CIRCUIT COURT**

Erwin P. Craft

Plaintiffs

vs.

Dorothy Mae Craft

Defendants

**SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT**

Filed July 18th 194 5

R. S. Dyck Clerk

Jesse F. Hogah.

Plaintiff's Attorney

Defendant's Attorney

Defendant lives at \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED IN OFFICE

July 18 194 5

C. E. Barrett Sheriff

I have executed this summons

this 19th July 194 5  
by leaving a copy with

Dorothy Mae Craft

C. E. Barrett Sheriff

Freel Walters Deputy Sheriff

Ervin P. Craft,  
Complainant, )  
vs )  
Dorothy Mae Craft,  
Respondent. )

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY,  
ALABAMA  
In Equity No.

Answer

Comes now the Respondent, and, reserving all right of exception to the Bill of Complaint, makes answer thereto as follows, viz:

FIRST: Answering the first paragraph of the Bill of Complaint, the Respondent admits the allegations thereof. She also admits the allegations as to age and residence.

SECOND: Answering the Second paragraph of the Bill of Complaint, she denies the allegations thereof.

And, having fully answered the Bill of Complaint, the Respondent prays that she may be hence dismissed, with all reasonable costs sustained by her in this behalf.

Dorothy Mae Craft  
Respondent

1372

RECORDED

Craft

v

Craft

Answer

Filed July 21 - 1945  
P. Deak  
Popular

Ervin F. Craft,  
Complainant,

vs

Dorothy Mae Craft,  
Respondent.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY,

ALABAMA

In Equity No.

I, Dorothy Mae Craft, do hereby appear in said cause. I also waive service of the writ of summons of the State of Alabama upon me, in said cause, and I agree that I shall be bound by the orders and decrees that shall be rendered in said cause as fully as though I had been duly served with said writ of summons in said cause. I also waive notice of the taking of the testimony in said cause and I agree that the Complainant may have the cause set for hearing at any time agreeable to the Court, without notice to me.

Dated July 20 1945

Dorothy Mae Craft  
Respondent

STATE OF ALABAMA)

Baldwin COUNTY)

I, Eshel Mandeville, a Notary Public in and for said County in said State, hereby certify that Dorothy Mae Craft, whose name is signed to the foregoing writing, and who is known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the writing, she signed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

Given under my hand and official seal, this ~~xxxxx~~ 20<sup>th</sup> day of 1945.

Eshel Mandeville  
Notary Public, Baldwin County, Ala

1372

RECORDED

Craft  
&  
Craft

Wain

Filed July 21-1945  
P. Schick  
Ryter

Ervin P. CRAFT  
Complainant,  
VS.  
Dorothy Mae Craft  
Respondent.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA,  
IN EQUITY.  
NO. 1972

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: Ervin P. Craft and  
T. E. Arendale

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

Jesse F. Hogan  
Solicitor for Complainant.

NOTE:

Complainant suggests the name of R. M. Smith, Mobile, Ala.,  
as a suitable and competent person to act as commissioner upon the examination of said witnesses.

Jesse F. Hogan  
Solicitor for Complainant.

DEMAND FOR ORAL EXAMINATION.

*Smith*

Complainant,

Vs.

*Craft*

Respondent.

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

Filed this *5* day of *Sept*,

194*5*

*Register*

Register.

Baldwin  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ~~MORRIS~~/COUNTY, ALABAMA

Ervin P. Craft  
Complainant

VS

Dorothy Mae Craft  
Defendant

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

DEPOSITIONS of the following named witnesses, taken  
by me on oral examination on behalf of the  
Complainant in the above entitled cause

Ervin P. Craft

T. E. Arendale



The said Mr. <sup>T.</sup> E. Arendale, having been first duly sworn, testified as follows on Direct Examination by Judge Hogan:

My name is E. E. Arendale. I have known the complainant since February 1945. Yes, I was with the complainant on June 6, 1945. I was riding with him, and we went on back by the house where he lived. He had been to his home, and came by and picked me up and carried me back to his house, and when I got there, his wife was laying across the bed, and there was a whiskey bottle setting on the dining room table, and she was there alone, but she didnt say anything - yes, her grandfather was there too, - and there was blood on the bed - on the pillow; and the complainant in the presence and hearing of his wife, told me what had happened when he went home that morning, and having found that man in bed with his wife, and his wife did not deny it. She just kept silent.

E. E. Arendale

The said MR. ERVIN P. CRAFT, having been first duly sworn, testified as follows on Direct Examination by Judge Jesse F. Hogan, Solicitor for the Complainant:

My name is Ervin P. Craft, and I am the complainant in this case. I live at Fairhope, Alabama - Baldwin County, Alabama, and have been living there for two years - this past June was two years. No, I have no present intention of removing from Baldwin County, Alabama. I am a bona fide resident of said county. The respondent is Dorothy Mae Craft, and at the time that this bill was filed she was a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and was my wife, and was over 18 years old. We were lawfully married to one another in August 1943, at Lucedale, Miss. There is no child of the marriage. Yes, on June 6th 1945, I found my wife in company with another man. They were in my residence. I found her in her nightgown with that man and he had his pants off. That was about six o'clock in the morning. I think his name was Daniel W. Keller. No, I have not lived with her since that time, but I separated immediately from her. I had not been home that night. I had spent the night here in Mobile. Her conduct in being with that man was not known to me before, and I did not connive at it in any way. That man Keller was a sailor. When I went in the house, I found the bedroom door locked, so I went around to the bedroom window and opened the screen, and I crawled in the window and ~~and~~ saw both of them laying in bed asleep; so I unlatched the door and took a shoe from the shoerack on the door and started to work on the sailor. I heard that they had to take 67 stitches in him. I reported it to the Coast Guard. He left blood all over the bed.

*Ervin P. Craft*

Ervin P. Craft  
Complainant

VS.

Dorothy Mae Craft  
Defendant

In the Circuit Court of Baldwin  
~~Mobile~~ County, Alabama.  
No. 1372

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, as the Commissioner named in the attached commission, hereby certify that acting under the said instrument, I did cause the witnesses

**Ervin P. Craft and T. E. Arendale**

to come before me at the time and place hereinafter named, in the City of Mobile, Alabama; that said witnesses were duly made known to me, and made known to me to be the identical witnesses named in the said instrument; that said witnesses were by me duly sworn, and did testify as is above set down, and their testimony was by me reduced to writing. I further hereby certify that I am neither of counsel nor of kin to either party to the cause, nor am I in any manner interested in the result thereof. Said testimony was taken by me at 502 First National Bank Bldg Mobile, Ala., on September 18, 1945, at 11:15 AM.

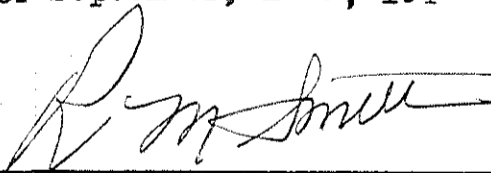
and after I reduced the same to writing, I read same over to the witnesses, who thereupon signed and subscribed their names thereto in my presence.

I further certify that these depositions are true and correct as given by the witnesses.

I further certify that the following persons, in addition to the witnesses, attended at the taking of the depositions, and were present when the depositions were read over to and signed by the witnesses.

**Judge Jesse F. Hogan, Solicitor for the Complainant**

Dated this the 20th day of September, 1945, 194



Commissioner

We waive being present at the reading over of the depositions to the witnesses and the signing of same by the witnesses, and agree that no one need be present at the reading over and signing of the depositions except the Commissioner.

Dated this the            day of            , 194 .

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
BALDWIN COUNTY

Circuit Court

To R. M. Smith

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 Ervin P. Craft and T.E. Arendale

as witnesses in behalf of Complainant in a cause pending in our Circuit Court in Baldwin County, of said State, wherein Ervin P Craft

Complainant

and Dorothy Mae Craft

Respondent

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

Witness 15th day of Sept., 19 45

R. L. Duval

Register

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

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

No. 1372

1372

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT

1372

CRAFT

Draft  
vs.  
Crall

Complainant

VS.

Fishery

CRAFT

Defendant

COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION

COMMISSIONER:

July 21st 1945  
P. P. P.

WITNESSES: