

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, BALDWIN COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

RUTH P. BELL

Complainant

VS.

JOSEPH HOBSON BELL

Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, ~~DECEASED BY COURT ORDER~~

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

and that the said RUTH P. BELL

is forever divorced from the said JOSEPH HOBSON BELL

for and on account of CRUELTY

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 JOSEPH HOBSON BELL the Respondent pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This 4th day of August, 1945

J. N. Hare

Judge Circuit Court, in Equity.

I, ROBERT S. 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 _____ day

of August, 1945

Register of Circuit Court, in Equity

No. 1381 Page _____

The State of Alabama
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

RUTH P. BELL

vs. Complainant

JOSEPH HOBSON BELL

Respondent

DIVORCE DECREE

Filed this _____ day of

August, 1945

Register

RUTH P. BELL

vs.

JOSEPH HOBSON BELL

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, _____
Answer and waiver

and in behalf of Defendant upon _____

R. S. Rickarby

Register.

E. G. Rickarby,
Atty.

No. _____

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
Baldwin County

IN EQUITY
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

RUTH P. BELL

vs.

JOSEPH HOBSON BELL

NOTE OF TESTIMONY

Filed in Open Court this 2nd

day of August, 1945

R. S. Duck
Register.

RUTH P. BELL
Complainant

E Q U I T Y

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

vs

JOSEPH HOBSON BELL
Respondent

DEPOSITIONS OF RUTH P. BELL and
LILLIAN W. CHIN, WITNESSES FOR COMPLAINANT.

The above named witnesses, being first duly sworn, upon examination by the Solicitor for the Complainant testified as follows:

RUTH P. BELL

I am the Complainant in this cause. I am over the age of twenty one years and was married on January 5, 1913 to Joseph Hobson Bell. We lived together as husband and wife in Faunsdale, Mobile and for the last two years I have been living in Fairhope where my husband followed me more than a year ago. Our married life has not been happy. He drinks and has been cruel and abusive to me for a number of years. This I put up with for the past year but on July 20th, without warning and while I was sitting quietly on the edge of my bed, he came over to me and struck me violently in the face with his fist. For several days the right side of my chin was black and blue and the subject of comment by other people who are boarders in my home. From his past treatment and this last attack, I fear to continue to live with him further and now ask my freedom.

Ruth P. Bell.

LILLIAN W. CHIN

I am a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and with my little boy have boarded with Mrs. Ruth P. Bell for a number of months since the death of my husband. I know that Mr. Bell mistreats his wife and one day last week she appeared with a deep black and blue discoloration on the right side of her lower jaw where he had hit her. I did not see this blow, but know that Bell has been brutal and ugly to his wife, especially when under the influence of liquor.

Lillian W. Chin

I, Helen P. Baugh, acting as commissioner by agreement of parties hereby certify that in the case of RUTH P. BELL, Complainant, vs. JOSEPH HOBSON BELL, Respondent, pending on the Equity side of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, I caused RUTH P. BELL and LILLIAN W. CHIN, witnesses for the complainant, to appear before me in my office in Fairhope, Alabama, where, after being duly sworn, upon examination by the Solicitor for the Complainant, they testified as is herein set out; and their testimony after being reduced to writing was read over and signed by them.

I further certify that I am neither of counsel nor of kin to either party to the cause or in anywise interested in the result thereof.

In witness whereof, I hereto set my hand and seal as commissioner this the 1st day of August, 1945.

Commissions costs \$2.50. Paid by Complainant.

Helen P. Baugh

11
1005
8753
130
1312

I hereby certify that the above named person is the owner of the property described in the foregoing and that the same is situated in the County of ... State of ... and that the same is not subject to any other lien or encumbrance.

Filed
 8-2-45
 P.S. Bucks
 Register

The above is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the County Clerk of Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

(Faint, illegible stamp or text)

TO THE

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

Comes RUTH P. BELL, and by this her Bill of Complaint, presented against JOSEPH HOBSON BELL, respectfully shows:

FIRST: That Complainant and Defendant are both over the age of twenty-one years; that both are lifelong residents of Alabama and for the past year residents of Baldwin County.

SECOND: That Complainant and Defendant were married on January 5, 1913 and since that date have lived in Faunsdale, Mobile and in Fairhope up to the present time, but are now living apart for the reasons hereinafter stated.

THIRD: That for a number of years Defendant's treatment of Complainant has been cruel and abusive. He drinks and has repeatedly mistreated Complainant, but when in the week just ending he struck her unexpectedly and violently with his fist, so that her chin was bruised and livid for a number of days, she has definitely determined to leave him, fearing for her personal safety as well as life itself.

THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Complainant prays that JOSEPH HOBSON BELL be made party defendant to this cause, and by proper process required to answer this Bill within the time prescribed by Law.

Complainant further prays that upon the hearing of this cause a decree be rendered forever divorcing her from said Joseph Hobson Bell, granting her the right to marry again should she so desire, and to have such other, further or different relief as to equity may seem meet.

Edwin S. Pinkney
Solicitor for Complainant.

CONFIDENTIAL FOR WORKING

[Handwritten signature]

THE STATE OF

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ...

DO COME before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State of ...

That the within and foregoing instrument was acknowledged to me by the said ...

Witness my hand and seal of office this ... day of ... 19...

1381

RECORDED

RUTH P. BELL
JOSEPH HOBSON BELL

BILL OF COMPLAINT

VS

Filed

S-2545
R.S. Ulrich
Register

... OF ...

...

RUTH P. BELL
Complainant

vs

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

JOSEPH HOBSON BELL
Respondent

Comes JOSEPH HOBSON BELL, Respondent in the above styled cause, and his answer to the Bill of Complaint, says he denies each and every allegation of same.

Respondent hereby waives notice of demand for oral examination of Complainant's witnesses; of the issue of commission to take testimony; of the time and place set 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 on the pleading and Complainant's evidence as noted by the Register.

Joseph H. Bell
Respondent.

Before me, the undersigned Notary, personally appeared JOSEPH HOBSON BELL, who is known to me to be the Respondent above named and who acknowledged that he executed the foregoing answer voluntarily with knowledge of its contents.

Witness my hand and official seal on this the 31 day of July, 1945.

Elizabeth S. P. ...
Notary Public, Baldwin County, Alabama.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, CLERK OF SUPREME COURT

Joseph Hobson Bell

IN SENATE, THIS 21st DAY OF JULY, 1945.

JOSEPH HOBSON BELL, Respondent, vs. RUTH P. BELL, Complainant.

Joseph Hobson Bell

ANSWER AND WAIVER

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original of the within and foregoing answer and waiver.

1381

RECORDED

RUTH P. BELL
Complainant

vs
JOSEPH HOBSON BELL
Respondent

ANSWER AND WAIVER

Filed

8-2-45

R.S. Ulrichs

JOSEPH HOBSON BELL

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT

MISSISSIPPI