

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
Baldwin County.

Circuit Court, SPRING Session, 1954

The Grand Jury of said County charge that before finding this indictment ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR., whose name is to the Grand Jury otherwise unknown, unlawfully, and with malice aforethought, killed Thomas James Crenshaw, alias Tommy Lee Crenshaw, alias Tommy James, and whose name is otherwise unknown, by cutting him with a knife, against the peace and dignity of the State of Alabama.

2. The Grand Jury of said County further charge that before the finding of this indictment ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR., whose name is to the Grand Jury otherwise unknown, unlawfully, and with malice aforethought, killed Thomas James Crenshaw, alias Tommy Lee Crenshaw, alias Thomas James, and whose name is otherwise unknown, by stabbing him with a knife,

against the peace and dignity of the State of Alabama.

*Kenneth Cooper*  
Solicitor of the Twenty-Eighth Judicial Circuit.

No. ....

**THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
BALDWIN COUNTY**

**Circuit Court**

.....SPRING SESSION 1954 ~~XXXXXX~~.....

THE STATE

Vs.

ABRAHAM FRENCH, Jr.

**INDICTMENT**

MURDER, 1st DEGREE

No. Prosecutor.

WITNESSES:

LOUISE McDONALD

JAB CRENSHAW 1-234 - 12.45

JUNIOR WEAVER 1-60 - 3.75

CHARLES FINLEY 1-60 - 3.75

TAYLOR WILKINS

DR. NELSON GRUBBS

**RECORDED**

GRAND JURY NO. 55

A TRUE BILL

*E. G. Sledge*  
Foreman Grand Jury.

Filed in open Court and in the presence of  
the Grand Jury on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of  
March, 1954.

*Abraham French*, Clerk.

Presented in open Court to the presiding  
Judge by the Foreman of the Grand Jury, in

the presence of 17 other Grand Jurors.

*Abraham French*  
Clerk.

Bail fixed \$5000

*D. J. French*  
Judge.

STATE OF ALABAMA

vs.

ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR.,

Defendant.

I

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

I

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

I

AT LAW NO. 1795

I

Comes the Defendant, Abraham French, Jr., and appears specially for the purpose of filing this his motion to quash an indictment returned against him by the Grand Jury in this Court on March 11, 1954, at the Spring session 1954, which said indictment charges as follows:

The Grand Jury of said County charge that before finding this indictment ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR., whose name is to the Grand Jury otherwise unknown, unlawfully, and with malice aforethought, killed Thomas James Crenshaw, alias Tommy Lee Crenshaw, alias Tommy James and whose name is otherwise unknown, by cutting him with a knife, against the peace and dignity of the State of Alabama.

2. The Grand Jury of said County further charge that before the finding of this indictment ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR., whose name is to the Grand Jury otherwise unknown, unlawfully, and with malice aforethought, killed Thomas James Crenshaw, alias Tommy Lee Crenshaw alias Thomas James, and whose name is otherwise unknown, by stabbing him with a knife, against the peace and dignity of the State of Alabama.

Kenneth Cooper /s/  
Solicitor of the Twenty-Eighth  
Judicial Circuit,

and assigns as grounds for his said motion to quash such indictment and each and every count thereof, separately and severally, the following grounds, viz:

1. That said Defendant was indicted by a Grand Jury of Baldwin County, Alabama, on March 12, 1953, for the same offense charged in the indictment returned March 11, 1954, at the Spring term of said Court and said Defendant was put to trial under the indictment returned March 12, 1953, on March 27, 1953, which

said trial resulted in a mistrial; that after such mistrial was declared by the Court there was no order entered by the Judge of said Court in the minutes of the Court, as required by law, stating that the Court required a new indictment to be preferred for the offense charged or intended to be charged. That without any order from the Court pertaining to a new indictment the Grand Jury of Baldwin County, Alabama, on March 11, 1954, at the Spring term 1954, returned the indictment without due authority therefor, which said indictment should now be quashed.

2. That the minute entry of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, in the case of State of Alabama vs. Abraham French, Jr., fails to disclose any disposition of an indictment found by the Grand Jury of Baldwin County, Alabama, on March 12, 1953, against this Defendant in which he was charged with the same offense with which he is charged in the indictment rendered March 11, 1954, at the Spring session 1954, of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, and such minute entry does not disclose that the Judge of said Court ordered the new indictment to be preferred, as required by law.

Abraham French, Jr.  
Defendant.

STATE OF ALABAMA

BALDWIN COUNTY

Before me, John Chason, a Notary Public, in and for said State and County, personally appeared Abraham French, Jr., who is known to me and who, after being by me first duly and legally sworn, doth depose and say under oath as follows:

That he signed the foregoing motion to quash an indictment and that all the matters and facts alleged in such motion are true and correct.

Abraham French, Jr.

Sworn to and subscribed before  
me this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1954.

J. Chason  
Notary Public, Baldwin County, Alabama

MOTION TO QUASH INDICTMENT

STATE OF ALABAMA

vs.

ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR.,

Defendant.

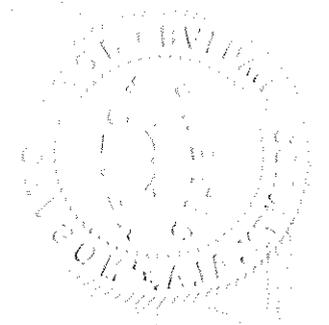
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

AT LAW NO. 1795

Filed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September,  
1954.

Abraham French  
Clerk.



1795

STATE OF ALABAMA

vs.

ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR.,

Defendant.

¶

¶ IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

¶ BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

¶

AT LAW,

*No. 1795*

Comes the Defendant in the above styled cause and demurs to the indictment returned against him in said cause by the Grand Jury of Baldwin County, Alabama, on March 11, 1954, and each and every count thereof separately and severally and assigns the following separate and several grounds, viz:

1. That said indictment does not charge the Defendant with a crime under the laws of the State of Alabama.
2. That the allegation in said indictment "whose name is otherwise unknown" does not state that the name of the decedent is otherwise unknown to the Grand Jury that found the indictment.

*Abraham French Jr.*  
 Defendant.

DEMURRER

STATE OF ALABAMA,

vs.

ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR.,

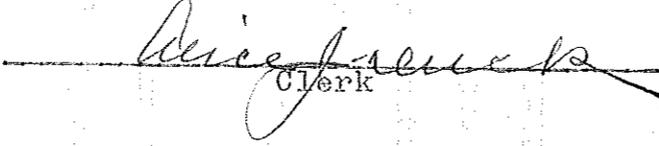
Defendant.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

AT LAW

Filed this 13 day of September,  
1954.

  
Clerk



No. -----

The State of Alabama,  
Baldwin County.

\_\_\_\_\_ Court

Sheriff's Office

THE STATE

vs.

Sheriff's Appearance Bond

Amount of Bond, \$ -----

Filed -----, 195-----

-----, Clerk

1795

CAPIAS

Moore Printing Co.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
Baldwin County

To Any Sheriff of the State of Alabama:

An indictment having been found against

Abraham French Jr

at the Spring Term, 1954, of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, for the offense of

Murder 1st degree

you are, therefore, commanded forthwith to arrest the said Defendant and commit him

to jail, unless he give bail to answer said indictment, and that you return this Writ according to law.

Dated this 17th day of March, 1954.

Arice French

Clerk Circuit Court of Baldwin County.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin County

We, \_\_\_\_\_, as principal and

the other undersigned as sureties, agree to pay the State of Alabama \_\_\_\_\_

Dollars, unless the said \_\_\_\_\_ appears

at the \_\_\_\_\_ Term of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, and from Term to

Term thereafter until discharged by law, to answer a criminal prosecution for the offense of \_\_\_\_\_

In signing the above bond we and each of us hereby waive all legal rights of exemptions allowed us by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Alabama.

Witness our hands and seals this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ (L. S.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (L. S.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (L. S.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (L. S.)

Taken and approved \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheriff of Baldwin County.

no 1795'

CAPIAS

No. 55

THE STATE

vs.

Abraham French

Bail Fixed in This Case in Open Court at

\$ 5000<sup>00</sup>

By Hubert M. Hall  
Judge Presiding.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk.

Executed this 16 day of Mar, 1954

By arresting the within  
named Defendant

and placing him in Jail

Taylor W. White, Sheriff

Pat Seller, Deputy Sheriff

O Miller

STATE OF ALABAMA

vs.

ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR.,

Defendant.

Y

Y

Y

Y

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

AT LAW

Comes the Defendant, Abraham French, Jr., and appears specially for the purpose of filing this his plea in abatement to the indictment returned against him in said cause at the Spring session 1954 by the Grand Jury of Baldwin County, Alabama, and for no other purpose and assigns the following separate and several pleas in abatement, viz:

1. That at the time the indictment was returned against him by the Grand Jury of Baldwin County, Alabama, at its Spring session 1954 on March 11, 1954, there was then pending an indictment charging him with the same offense which other indictment had been returned by the Grand Jury of Baldwin County, Alabama, on March 12, 1953, which first said indictment had not been quashed by an order of the Judge of said Court.

2. That the indictment under which the Defendant is charged in this case was returned by the Grand Jury of Baldwin County, Alabama, on March 11, 1954, while there was still pending against this Defendant an indictment returned by the Grand Jury of Baldwin County, Alabama, on March 12, 1953, without said original indictment having been quashed or without any minute entry by the Court requiring such new indictment to be preferred as required by law.

Abraham French Jr.  
Defendant.

STATE OF ALABAMA

BALDWIN COUNTY

Before me, John Chason, a Notary Public, in and for said State and County, personally appeared Abraham French, Jr., who is known to me and who, after being by me first duly and legally sworn doth depose and say under oath as follows:

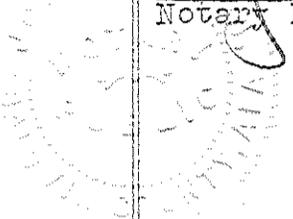
1795

That he signed the foregoing plea in abatement and that all the matters and facts alleged in such plea are true and correct.

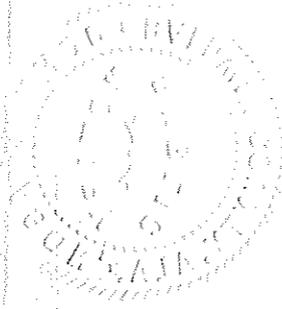
Abraham Francis

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 1954.

W. H. Bass  
Notary Public, Baldwin County, Alabama



1795



PLEA IN ABATEMENT

STATE OF ALABAMA

vs.

ABRAHAM FRENCH, JR.,

Defendant.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

AT LAW

Filed this 23 day of September,  
1954.

Archie French  
Clerk.