CIRCUIT COURT, BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA., IN EQUITY.

No. 1007

Myrtle Jeferat



PLAINTIFF

DEFENDANT

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Circuit Court, Baldwin County, Ala.
In Equity.

Register.

Moore Printing Co. Bay Minette

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

Now comes your complainant, Myrtle Jefcoat, and presents this, her bill of complaint, against W. Fred Jefcoat, and shows unto your Honor as follows:

That your complainant and the said W. Fred

Jefcoat are both over twenty-one years of age, are both

bona fide residents of the State of Alabama, and have been

for a period of more than three years next prior to the filing

of this complaint, both of said parties being residents

now of Baldwin County, State of Alabama, and have been for

a number of months, having lived prior thereto in Mobile

County, Alabama.

Your complainant and the said W. Fred Jeffcoat were lawfully married in Bay Minette, Baldwin County, Alabama, during the month of August 1921, and lived together as man and wife for a long period of time; that there has been born to the said complainant and the said W. Fred Jefcoat four children, the oldest being about ten years of age and the youngest about three, all of said children being with your complainant.

Your complainant further shows unto your Honor that during the month of October 1930, and while your complainant and the respondent were living together as man and wife in Baldwin County, Alabama, that the said respondent, W. Fred Jefcoat, committed actual violence on your complainant by striking her in the face, and which violence was attended with danger to her life or health; and your complainant further avers that since said assault and battery she has not lived with the said respondent as his wife and that she cannot and will not condone said assault.

And your complainant further shows unto your Honor that the said respondent, W. Fred Jefcoat, is an ablebodied man, able to work and able to provide for your

complainant and said children, and that she is without funds with which to pay her solicitors or to support herself and said children, except she can secure employment somewhere.

The premises considered, your complainant prays that your Honor will take jurisdiction of the cause made by this bill of complaint, will cause notice thereof to be served on the respondent, W. Fred Jefcoat, according to the rules of this Honorable Court and the laws of this State in such matters pretaining, and make him respondent to said bill of complaint requiring him to answer, plead or demur within the time allowed by law.

And your complainant further prays that your Honors will order a reference to be held by this Honorable Court to ascertain what will be a reasonable amount of alimony to be allowed her pendente lite, and also what solicitors fees she should be allowed, and that said report when filed be confirmed by this Court and the respondent to make payment of such alimony and solicitors fees.

And your complainant further prays that upon the final hearing of this cause your Honor will grant her a decree dissolving the bonds of matrimony now existing between your complainant and the said W. Fred Jefcoat, granting her an absolute divorce, granting her the right to marry again, and will also enter a decree ordering the Register to hold a reference to ascertain what would be a reasonable amount of alimony to be allowed your complainant permenantly, and that upon the report of said Register your Honor will decree that this respondent be required and compelled to pay such amount as shall be ascertained to be reasonable, and your complainant will ever pray, etc.

Gordon Longlon Tright SOLICITORS FOR COMPLAINANT

FOOT NOTE:

The respondent is required to answer each and every paragraph of the foregoing bill of complaint, but not

under oath, his oath thereto being hereby expressly waived.

Gordon Edmylon Sciph SOLICITORS FOR COMPLAINANT.

RECORDED

BILL OF COMPLAINT

Gordon, Edington & Leig Solicitors for Edmplæi

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STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF BALDWIN.

ANSWER

MYRTLE JEFCOAT, Complainant,

٧s.

W. FRED JEFCOAT, Respondent.

BALDWIN COUNTY. THE HON. W. F. HARE SITTING IN EQUITY.

Comes now your Respondent and admits the allegations as set forth in the first count of Complainant's Bill of Complaint.

Your respondent respectfully denies that the Respondent and Complainant were married during the month of August, 1921, and says that they were married on the 1st day of September, 1920, and have lived together as man and wife for a long period of time; that there has been born to the said Complainant and Respondent four children: Aubrey Stewart Jefcoat, a son, age ten years six months; Dorothea Christine Jefcoat, a daughter, age eight years eleven months; Caroline June Jefcoat, a daughter, age seven years and five months; William Fred Jefcoat, Jr., a son, age three years and eight months. Respondent further shows to this Honorable Court that the oldest, Aubrey Stewart Jefcoat, is living with his father, the respondent herein, and has never left the abode of his father to live; that the three youngest children, Dorothea Christine Jefcoat, Caroline June Jefcoat and William Fred Jefcoat, Jr., were taken away by the mother when she left the respondent's home on or about the 15th day of October, 1931.

Your Respondent denies the allegations as set forth in the third count of the Complaint.

Your Respondent denies the allegations set forth in the fourth count of the Complaint and for further answer to said count shows to Your Honor that the Complainant herein has left the children in the care of third persons in Baldwin County and took up her abode in Mobile County, Alabama. Your Respondent further shows to this Honorable Court that he has been denied and is still denied the privilege of seeing the three younger children.

Premises considered, your Respondent, having answered the four paragraphs of the Complaint, demands strict proof of each and every allegation therein not admitted.

Your Respondent further shows to this Honorable Court that he is without funds and has no property other than a farm, which is encumbered over one-half of its value, and that he is unable financially to pay solicitor's fees or alimony pendente

J. J. Meloo Solicitor for Repowered

W. Fred Jeferat

Corpura

STATE OF ALABAMA.)
COUNTY OF BALDWIN.)

MYRTLE JEFCO AT, Complainant,

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FRED JEFCO AT, Responden

AN SWIER

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Filed Mr 16th /31 MorRisemen Regish

F. F. Nelson, Solicitor for Respondent children, and that he be permitted to continue to provide for them at his own home and to send them to school and otherwise maintain, provide and care for as he has in time past, and other relief as in equity and good conscience your Respondent will ever pray.

W Fred Jefevat

FOOT NOTE: That the Complainant be and is required to answer each and every paragraph of the foregoing Cross Bill of the Respondent, but not under oath, her oath thereto being expressly waived.

F.F. Melson Solvens for Augustus

RECORDEU

COUNTY OF BALDWIN.)

MYRTLE JEFCOAT, Complainant,

O.

w. FRED JEFCOAT, Responden

GROSS BILL

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

There miller 1931

F. F. Nelson, Solicitor for Respondent

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STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF BALDEDS.)

MINTER JEDOGAT,

Complainmt,

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BALDIEN COUNTY. ME HON. W. F. MARE SITTING IN RODITY.

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STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF BALDWIN.)

MYRTLE JEFCOAT,

Complainant,

VS.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

W. FRED JEFCOAT,

Respondent.

Comes now your Respondent, W. FRED JEFCOAT, and shows to this Honorable Court that he has answered all of the allegations set forth in Complainant's Bill of Complaint, and further shows to this Honorable Court:

First: That the Complainant on or about the 15th day of October, 1931, left his home on the farm where they were living about four miles east of Robertsdale, Alabama, and took with her the three youngest children, namely, Doro thea Christine Jefcoat, Caroline June Jefcoat and William Fred Jefcoat, and that your Complainant, without just cause or legal excuse, left the home provided for by your Respondent and went away to the home of her mother.

Second: That the Complainant, after remaining a few days in Baldwin County, Alabama, left the County of Baldwin and left her three children with her mother and has since resided in Mobile County, Alabama, and that the said three youngest children, namely, Dorothea Christine Jefcoat, Caroline June Jefcoat and William Fred Jefcoat, Jr., are away from their mother and father and are residing with their grandmother; and that your Respondent is prohibited to visit the premises or take care of the three youngest children, the fourth one remaining with this Respondent.

Third: Your Respondent further shows to this Honorable Court that he is in possession of and has a small farm consisting of forty acres of land; that he has no money, but that he has a home whereby he provided food, clothing, shelter and sustenance for his children and Complainant, furnished them means and ways and sent the children that were of school age to school.

Fourth: Your Respondent further shows to this Honorable Court that he is willing to provide, care for and maintain all of his said children, and that he has a home wherein they may remain and have the comforts of a home, but that he has no other property and is unable to pay alimony pendente lite or permanent alimony.

Wherefore, premises considered, your Respondent prays that notice of this Cross Bill be served upon the Complainant, MYRTLE JEFCOAT, according to the rules of this Honorable Court and the laws of this state in such manner pertaining, and that she be required to answer, plead or demur to this Cross Bill as the time allowed by law. Your Respondent further prays that an order issue out of this court entrusting and giving to the Respondent his said children until the final hearing of this cause, and that upon the final hearing of this cause, that he be granted the care and custody and control of all of the said

The State of Alabama, Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, IN EQUITY

WE COMMAND	YOU, That you summon Myrtle Jefcoat,
· ·	
fMobile	County, to be and appear before the Judge of the Circuit Co
f Baldwin County, ex	kercising Chancery jurisdiction, within thirty days after the service of Su AMENDED swer, plead or demur, without oath, to a Bill of Complaint lately exhibited
<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>	W.Fred Jefcoat,
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· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
gainst said	Myrtle Jefcoat,
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said Defendant shall i	perform what said Judge shall order and direct in that behalf. And this in no wise emit, under penalty, etc. And we further command that you rendorsement thereon, to our said Court immediately upon the execution thereon
	7.0 ± %
WITNESS, T. W	Richerson, Register of said Circuit Court, this day
	ber, 193 1

N. B.—Any party defendant is entitled to a copy of the bill upon application to the Register.

ecorded in Vol Page	Solicitor for Complainant.	F.F.Nelson	mofile ace	Muralune Mational Back	ally for my the Jeferent	Ceclaling Come V decigle.	work Cop	Myrthe Jefcoat,	VS.						W.Fred Jefcoat,	SUMMONS	No	Circuit Court of Baldwin County In Equity.	Serve on	- Charles
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The State of Alabama, Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, IN EQUITY

WE COMMAND	YOU, That you sum	mon W.	Fred Jefeo	at	
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N. B.—Any party defendant is entitled to a copy of the bill upon application to the Register.

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			Deputy Sheriff.	By ABMillan Sheriff.	M. Fred Lefeord. Defendant. M. Strand	by leaving a copy of the within Summons with		Executed this $2U$ t day of	S	Received in office this	The State of Alabama, BALDWIN COUNTY.	() () () () () () () () () ()

MYRTLE JEFCOAT,

Complainant

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

W. FRED JEFCOAT,

Respondent

Respondent

Now comes Myrtle Jefcoat, the original complainant and cross-respondent in this cause and for answer to said cross-bill says as follows:

To the First Paragraph:

Said complainant and cross-respondent says that she was compelled to leave her home by reason of the conduct of said cross-complainant and that when she left she had just received a cruel assault upon her person by him.

To the Second Paragraph:

In answer to this paragraph this cross-respondent says that she was compelled to go to Mobile temporarily and secure work in order to support herself and assist in the support of her said children, and that her children are left, as alleged in said paragraph, with her parents who are good people, who are kind people and are perfectly willing to take care of said children, and that they are being properly cared for and properly brought up.

For further answer to said cross-bill, the crossrespondent alleges that the said W. Fred Jefcoat is not the
proper party to take care of said children, that it would be
detrimental to the interest of said children if he should
take care of them, and that they are better cared for and
better trained out of his possession and control, and that
your complainant and cross-respondent is prepared to give
them the proper education and proper moral training if the
said cross-complainant will do his duty by the children in
providing a reasonable allowance for their maintenance and
support.

Wherefore, cross-respondent says that she should be given the care and custody of the said children and prays for such a decree to such effect.

ATTORNEYS FOR CROSS-RESPONDENT

Thick for 28th 1

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