

1879-02

Southampton County Chancery -

Brown, Henry vs Brown, Susannah E.

Divorce

✓

Broton

as 3 Bill.
" exhibit

Broton

1879 September Rules

To The Honorable George Blow judge.
of the Circuit Court of Southampton
in chancery sitting

Humly complaining Your Orator
Henry Brown ^{Edwards} unto your
Honor that in the year 1870 he was
married by The Reverend Mr Little
to Susannah ~~Edwards~~ ^{Edwards} all of Southampton
County. That in the year 1875 - his
wife Susannah deserted and abandoned
his home and bed and board and
has been away from him ever since
that she has committed several
acts of Adultery with one Lewis
Turner. Your Orator is informed and
alleges it as matter of fact that she
has been living in open adultery
with Lewis Turner pretty much
ever since she abandoned his home
and that she has had three children
since her separation from him and
is now pregnant again.

Your Orator with his bed
dishonored and all his hopes of
happiness from this marriage blasted
and destroyed feels constrained to invoke
the aid of a Court of chancery to
relieve him from the bond of this
hateful marriage.

In Tender consideration of his state and
misfortune as your orator is without
relief at law and only entitled to

* All of which wife more fully appears by
a copy of the certificate of marriage heretofore
filed on record and prayed to be taken as a
part of this case

relief in a court of equity when such
matters are peculiarly cognizable to
Therefore prays that his wife Susannah
Brown may be made a party defendant
to this bill and that the court would
compel her as free and perfect answer
Make to the allegations therein contained as
if she had been ^{interrogated} ~~therein~~ to more
fully and specially ^{interrogated} and that the
court would by its decree dissolve
the bond of marriage now existing
between your orator and his wife
Susannah Brown with the right to
your orator to marry again should
the see fit, and that the court would
grant such other and general relief
the premises considered as equity
may dictate and the nature of his
case may require and as in duty
bound your orator will ever pray he
Shanda J. G.

Brown

and 3

Edwards

A

Marriage License



Virginia, Southampton County to wit:

TO ANY PERSON LICENSED TO CELEBRATE MARRIAGES:

You are hereby authorized to join together in the Holy State of Matrimony, according to the rites and ceremonies of your Church, or religious denomination, and the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Henry Brown and Sue Edwards (both Colored)

Given under my hand, as Clerk of the County Court of Southampton this 17 day October 1870
O. White Clerk.

CERTIFICATE TO OBTAIN A MARRIAGE LICENSE.

To be annexed to the License, required by Acts passed 15th March 1861, and February 27th, 1866.

Time of Marriage, <u>Oct 19. 1870</u>	Condition of Wife, (widowed or single) <u>Single</u>
Place of Marriage, <u>Southampton Co</u>	Place of Husband's Birth, <u>Southampton Co</u>
Full Names of Parties Married, <u>Henry Brown</u>	Place of Wife's Birth, <u>"</u>
<u>& Sue Edwards</u>	Place of Husband's Residence, <u>"</u>
Color, <u>Colored</u>	Place of Wife's Residence, <u>"</u>
Age of Husband, <u>26 years</u>	Names of Husband's Parents, <u>"</u>
Age of Wife, <u>17</u>	Names of Wife's Parents, <u>"</u>
Condition of Husband, (widowed or single) <u>Single</u>	Occupation of Husband, <u>Farming</u>
Given under my hand this <u>17</u> day of <u>October</u> 18 <u>70</u> <u>O. White</u> Clerk.	

MINISTER'S RETURN OF MARRIAGE.

I Certify, That on the 19 day of October 1870
at Hebron Church Southampton Co I united in Marriage the above-named and described parties, under authority of the annexed License.

J. J. Little Minister

The Minister celebrating a marriage, is required, within TEN days thereafter, to return the license to the Office of the Clerk who issued the same, with an endorsement thereon of the FACT of such marriage, and of the TIME and PLACE of celebrating the same.

Southampton County, to wit

This day Marion P. Rivers personally
appeared before me and made oath
that he delivered a true copy of the
within notice to Susannah Brown
on the 7th day of October 1889
Given under my hand this 10th day
of October 1889

J. S. Abrell
Clerk in Chancery

Brown
vs B. Justice
Brown

To Susannah Brown

Take notice that
I shall on Thursday the 15th day of
October 1879 at the store of Messrs
George and James P Turner in the county
of Southampton proceed between the
hours of 10 o'clock and sunset and
to be continued from day to day until
finished to take the depositions of
George Brown, Willis James, James
Deloche, Henry Parsons, David Turner
James P Turner and Allen James to be
made as evidence in my behalf in
a certain suit in chancery now
pending in the circuit court of
Southampton in which I am plaintiff
and you ^{are} defendant at which time
and place you may attend if you
see fit
Sept 30th 1879 Henry Brown

1

The Depositions of Geo Brown & others taken before me J. N. Selree a Commissioner in Chancery for the Circuit Court of Southampton, at ~~the~~ store of Geo W & E. P. Turner in said County on the 16th day of October 1879, in pursuance of annexed notice, to be read in behalf of Henry Brown in a certain suit in Chancery in said Court, now pending in which Henry Brown is Plaintiff and Susannah Brown is Defendant.

Present W^m. B. Shands, Counsel for Plaintiff

Geo Brown being first duly sworn, and being a competent witness, deposes and says as follows -

I live near Lewis Turner & Susannah Brown and know that they sleep together. They live on Mr Ben Turner's land, farming with Mr Turner on shares, he furnishing the horse and land and they the labor. They live in the same house together. I know they have lived together from Christmas 1878 up to this time, and I have seen them in bed together three times. I lived near them in the year 1875 and know they staid together when I went to the house where they slept twice during this year (1875) ^{in the nighttime} and saw them in the bed together and no person in the house but them two. I know that they have occupied the same house since 1875, during that time she had three children which were said to be the children of Lewis Turner. She left her husband Henry Brown sometime in the year 1875. I don't be

live Henry Brown has ever visited her since she left him - Henry Brown is a man of good reputation.
 & further this deponent said not.

Geo. ^{his} Brown
 mark

James Deloatch, being a competent witness, and being first duly sworn deposes & says as follows.

I know that Susanna Brown left her husband Henry Brown sometime during the year 1875 and went & lived with Lewis Turner on Mr. Peter Person's Land. They have been living together at different ^{places} ever since. She has ^{children} three which were born since she left Henry which are said to be Lewis Turner's - and she is pregnant now. During this year (1879) I went on three different occasions to Lewis Turner's house in the night time and saw them, Susannah Brown & Lewis Turner, in bed together. No one was in the house but them two; it was a small log house & no one lived in the house but those two. In August of this year Susanna told me she had had three children since she left Henry Brown, and that Henry had no more to do with getting them than a man she had never seen. She said she would stand before ten thousand folks & say that. She says that Henry Brown has never had anything to do with her since she left him and from my knowledge of Henry I don't believe he ever has, nor has

Henry Brown ever lived with or taken up with any other woman since his wife deserted him. I have lived within $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of him all the time, Henry Brown is a man of good Character -

& further this deponent saith not.

James ^{his} Deloatch
mark

Henry Persons being a competent witness, and being first duly sworn, deposes & says as follows.

I know that Susannah Brown has had one child since she left Henry Brown her husband, and she had not been living with him for some time before that child was born. & further this deponent saith not -

Henry + Persons

B. A James being first duly sworn, and being a competent witness, deposes & says as follows.

I know Henry Brown well, and know him to be a man of very good Character. I know he has not lived with his wife since 1845, I think she left him. It is general report that she is living in adultery with Lewis Turner.

& further this deponent saith not.

B. A James

Brown
vs. 3 Depositions
Brown

1879 Oct. 17 handed in by
J. K. Smith Com.

E. D. Stark, being a competent witness & being first duly sworn, deposes & says as follows.

I know Henry Brown, he is a boy of good character - It is the general report and believed that Susannah Brown his wife is living in adultery with Lewis Turner

& further this deponent saith not.

E. D. Stark -

J. E. P. Turner, a competent witness, being first duly sworn, deposes & says as follows.

Henry Brown has been living with me, for the last Eighteen months and has always acted very well, he is a good man as far as I know. It is the general report that Susannah Brown is living in adultery with Lewis Turner - So far as I know Henry Brown has nothing to do with her.

& further this deponent saith not.

J. E. P. Turner

The above Depositions were taken, subscribed & sworn to before me, at the time and place mentioned in above caption, in pursuance of annexed notice

Given under my hand as Comr in Chy for the Circuit Court, this 16th day October 1879

Fee for taking depositions }
\$5.00 }

J. C. Selwell
Comr in Chy

Brown

as 3 Geo

Brown

cut in this

Nov 1879

Geo. Brown

Brown
vs 3 Deere
Brown

This day This cause
came on be heard on the
plaintiffs bill deposition
filed and exhibit and

was argued by counsel On consideration whereof
the court being of opinion that the charge of
adultery against the defendant Susannah
Brown is fully proved, doth adjudge, order, and
decree that the marriage hitherto solemnized
between Henry Brown and his wife Susannah
Brown be and the same ~~and that~~
is hereby dissolved, and the said Henry Brown
be forever divorced from his wife Susannah Brown
with the right to the said Henry Brown
to marry again should he see fit, and that
the plaintiff recover from the defendant his
costs by him expended in the prosecution of
this suit, and it appearing to the court that
there is nothing further to be done in this
cause it is ordered that the same be
removed from the docket

Brown

W 3 Sp o

Brown

1849. Sept. Rules

Executed by deliv
ring Susannah

Brown a copy of
her Summons on the
1st day of September
1849. Newt Harvindy
for Wm Wiggitt Skp

The Commonwealth of Virginia.

To the Sheriff of Southampton County: Greeting.

We command you to summon

Jessamine Brown

to appear at the Clerks Office of our *Circuit* Court for Southampton County, at the Rules to be holden for the said Court on the first

Monday, on *September next* to answer, *a bill* in *Chancery* exhibited against her in our said Court by *Henry Brown*

and have then there this Writ: Witness, Littleton R. Edwards, Clerk of our said Court, at the Court House this *20* day of *August* 187*9* in the *10th* year of the Commonwealth. *L. R. Edwards*

Brown 2^{als}
?u. } Duns in
Brown } $\frac{ohy}{4}$

1879 C. A. R. Huley
" "

The Commonwealth of Virginia:

To the Sheriff of Southampton County Greeting:

We command you ~~to summon~~ *as we have heretofore Commanded*
you to Summon Susannah Brown,

if she be found within your bailiwick to appear at the Clerks office of our
Circuit Court of Southampton County at the Rules to be holden for said Court
on the first monday in *October* *next* to answer *a bill in*
Chancery exhibited against her in and said
Court by Henry Brown

and have then there this writ. Witness Littleton R. Edwards Clerk of our
said Court at the Courthouse this *12th* day of *September* 1879
in the *104th* year of the Commonwealth. *SR Edwards CL*