1931-006
Nansemond Co (Suffolk) Chancery Causes: Elsie M. Skeeter vs Dennis Skeeter

Boone

July 23, 1931.

Mr Dennis Skeeter
P.O. Suffolk,
Suffolk, Virginia.

Dear Dennis:

You would oblige me very much if you will stop by my office so that you and I might get on a date to see Judge McLemore, as he wants to talk with you about the divorce suit that your wife has pending against you.

If it is alright please come prepared to see the Judge Saturday.

I am cordially yours:

John M. Fulcher

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF NANSEMOND.

Ellsia Skeeter, Plaintiff.

vs. MEMORANDUM.

Dennis Skeeter, Defendant.

To

The Clerk of the above mentioned Court:

Please issue process, in the above style cause and make the same returnable to the first July Rules.

The defendant lives in Nansemond County, State of Virginia, in Skeeter Town.

Please have the within notice of taking depositions served with the other papers in this case that you may issue.

Given under my hand this 20th, day of June, 1931.

John H. Fulcher

Attorney for Ellsia Skeeter.

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
COUNTY OF NANSEMOND.

Elsie Skeeter, Plaintiff.

vs.

Dennis Skeeter, Defendant.

MEMORANDUM.

Filed this 20th.
of June 1931.
John H Powell clerk.

JOHN H. FULCHER
ATTORNEY AT LAW
SUFFOLK VIRGINIA.

Everett Waddey Co., Stationers and Printers, Richmond, Va. } Form No. 300. Code 1919, Sec. 6061

The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To the Sheriff of the County of Nansemond, *Greeting:*

We Command You, That you summon Dennis Skeeter

to appear at the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of the County of Nansemond at the rules to be held for the said Court on the First Monday in July, 19 31, to answer a bill in chancery, exhibited against him in our said Court by Ellsia Skeeter

And have then there this writ. Witness John H. Powell, Clerk of our said Court, at the court-house, the 20th. day of June, 19 31, and in the 155th. year of the Commonwealth.

John H. Powell - Clerk

Form No. 300

Ellsia Skeeter

vs. } SUBPOENA IN CHANCERY

Dennis Skeeter

John H. Fulcher, *p.q.*

To First July *Rules,*

Nansemond Coumty *Circuit Court.*

Executed on the 20 day of June 1931, within the County of Nansemond, State of Virginia. by delivering a true copy of the within summons notice in writing, to Dennis Skeeter in person.

E B Rawles
Sheriff of Nansemond County

By J C Taylor
Deputy Sheriff of Nansemond County

SUFFOLK, VIRGINIA, July 15 1931

M John H. Zuckerman, Atty
Suffolk, Va

WILLIAM M. BIRDSONG
ATTORNEY AT LAW
NATIONAL BANK OF SUFFOLK BUILDING

1931

July 15 — To taking depositions in the Skuter v. Skuter matter $10.00

Paid William M. Birdsong
July 15 - 1931

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF NANSEMOND.

Ellsia Skeeter, Plaintiff.

vs. NOTICE OF TAKING DEPOSITIONS.

Dennis Skeeter, Defendant.

To Dennis Skeeter;

Take notice that on the 15th, day of July, 1931, at the Office of William H. Birdsong in the National Bank Building, in the City of Suffolk and State of Virginia, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 5 P.M. of that day, I shall proceed to take the depositions of Ellsia Skeeter and others before William H. Birdsong Commissioner in Chancery, to be read as evidence in the behalf of Ellsia Skeeter in a certian suit in Chancery, now depending in the Circuit Court of the County of Nansemond, and State of Virginia, wherein the said Ellsia Skeeter, is plaintiff and your are the defendant; and if for any reason or cause the taking of the said depositions be not commenced, or if commenced be not concluded, on that day the taking thereof will be adjourned from day to day and time to time at the same place until the same shall be completed.

Given under my hand this 20th, day of June, 1931.

John H. Fulcher
Attorney for Ellsia Skeeter.

VIRGINIA:
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
COUNTY OF NANSEMOND.

Elsie Skeeter, Plaintiff.

vs.

Dennis Skeeter, Defendant.

Executed on the 20 day of June
1931, within the County of Nansemond, State
of Virginia, by delivering a true copy of the with-
in summons notice in writing, to Dennis
S Skeeter in person.

E B Rawles
Sheriff of Nansemond County

By J C Taylor
Deputy Sheriff of Nansemond County

Notice of taking depositions.

Filed this 22nd. day
of June 1931.
John H. Powell. Clerk

JOHN H. FULCHER
ATTORNEY AT LAW
SUFFOLK, VIRGINIA.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Virginia City of Suffolk *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,

Dennis Skeeter *and* Elsie M. Skeeter

Given under my hand, as Clerk of Circuit *Court of* Suffolk ~~County~~ (or City)

this 31" *day of* May, *19* 19.

Chas. L. Hutchins, *Clerk.*

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

To be annexed to the License, required by Section 5074 of the Code of Virginia, 1919, as amended by Act of February 16, 1910.

VIRGINIA: In the Clerk's Office of the Circuit *Court for the* ~~County~~ (or City) *of* Suffolk

Date of Marriage May 31st, 1919 Place of Marriage Suffolk

FULL NAMES OF PARTIES.

Dennis Skeeter *and* Elsie M. Skeeter

Age of Husband 23 years; Condition (single, widowed or divorced) single

Age of Wife 22 years; Condition (single, widowed or divorced) single

Race (White or Colored) colored

Husband's Place of Birth Nansemond Co.Va. (PRESENT) Mailing Address Nansemond Co. Va.

Wife's Place of Birth Nansemond Co.Va. Mailing Address Suffolk, Va.

Names of Parents — Husband Frank Skeeter and Mary E. Skeeter

Wife unknown and Unita Skeeter

Occupation of Husband Farmer

Given under my hand this 31st day of May, 19 19.

Chas. L. Hutchins, *Clerk.*

Certificate of Time and Place of Marriage

I, J. F. Jordan, a minister of the Universalist Church, or religious order of that name, do certify that on the 31st day of May, 19 19, at Suffolk, Virginia, under authority of the above License, I joined together in the Holy State of Matrimony the persons named and described therein. I qualified and gave bond according to law authorizing me to celebrate the rites of marriage in the County (or City) of Brunswick, State of Virginia.

Given under my hand this 4. day of June, 19 19.

J. F. Jordan

(Person who performs ceremony sign here.)

☞The Minister or other person celebrating a marriage is required, within thirty (30) days thereafter, to return the License and Certificate of the Clerk and his certificate of the time and place at which the marriage was celebrated to the Clerk who issued the License; failure to comply with these requirements of the law makes the Minister or other person celebrating the marriage liable to a fine of not less than ten nor more than twenty dollars for each offense (see Section 5074 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by Act approved February 16, 1910, Acts 1910, chapter 28, pages 36 and 37).

True Copy: Teste: L. L. Hutchins Clerk.

"Exhibit A"

~~County~~ (or City) Suffolk

Dennis Skeeter

Husband

and { **Marriage License**

Elsie M. Skeeter

Wife

Date of Issue May 31 1919

Marriage Register No. 1 *Page* 124

"Exhibit A"

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF NANSEMOND COUNTY.

Ellsia Skeeter.....Complainant

v. DEPOSITIONS

Dennis Skeeter.....Defendant.

The depositions of Ellsia Skeeter and others taken before me, William M. Birdsong, a Commissioner in Chancery for the Circuit Court of Nansemond County, in the State of Virginia, pursuant to notice duly served on the defendant, at the office of William M. Birdsong, in the National Bank of Suffolk, Building, Suffolk, Virginia, on the 15th day of July, 1931, between the hours of 10:A. M. and 5:00 P. M., to be read as evidence on behalf of Ellsia Skeeter in a certain suit depending in the Circuit Court of the County of Nansemond, in the State of Virginia, wherein Ellsia Skeeter is complainant and Dennis Skeeter is defendant.

Present: John H. Fulcher, Attorney for Complainant.

Elsie M. Skeeter, being duly sworn, deposes as follows:

Questions by J. H. Fulcher.

Q. Where do you live, what is your name and how old are you?

A. Elsie M. Skeeter, Nansemond County, Virginia; 28 years old.

Q. Are you married or single?

A. Married.

Q. When were you married?

A. The 31st of May, 1919.

Q. To whom ~~xxxx~~ were you married?

A. Dennis Skeeter.

Q. Are you and your husband now living together?

A. No.

Q. Why are you not living together?

A. Because he would not work.

Q. How long have you been apart?

A. About three years.

Q. When did he leave you or you leave him?

A. he left me the 20th day of March, 1927.

Q. What caused him to leave you?

A. Just wanted to leave.

Q. Did he tell you he was going away?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he tell you where he was going? or why?

A. No.

Q. Have you any children?

A. Yes.

Q. How many children have you?

A. Two

Q. How old are they?

A. The oldest is twelve and the other one is ten.

Q. Where are they?

A. One is with me and the other with him.

Q. Where does he now live?

A. In Nansemond County.

Q. Where do you live?

A. In Nansemond County.

Q. Where did you and your husband last live together?

A. Nansemond County.

Q. When did you last live together?

A. Since the 20th of March, 1927.

Q. What kind of husband did Dennis Skeeter make?

A. Did not make any kind?

Q. Why do you say he did not make any kind of husband?

A. He would not work, that is why.

Q. Were you nice to him?

A. Sure.

Q. Does he now support you and the children?

A. He supports one.

Q. Who supports the other one?

A. I do.

Q. What do you do to support yourself and child?

A. Work in a restaurant, The Horseshoe Cafe, 320 East Washington Street, Suffolk.

Q. How long have you been working at this place?

A. About two years.

Q. Did your husband support you and the children when you were living together?

A. No.

Q. What kind of work did your husband do when you were living together?

A. No kind.

Q. What does he do now, do you know?

A. Don't do any kind.

Q. Did your husband ever leave you before March 20, 1927?

A. No.

Q. Did he ever tell you before that time that he was going to leave you?

A. No.

Q. When and where did you and your husband last live and cohabit together?

A. Nansemond County, since the 20th of March, 1927.

Q. Do you mean "since or "on" the 20th of March, 1927?

A. On.

Q. Have you ever discussed the idea of his coming back to you with your husband?

A. Yes.

Q. How many times?

A. Several times.

Q. Why did you discuss that with him?

A. On account of the two children, so he would take care of them, but he said no, he was not coming back.

Q. Did he give any reason? why he was not coming back?

A. No, he did not say.

And further this deponent saith not.

Elsie M. Skeeter

* * * * *

Rosa Boone, being duly sworn, deposes as follows:

Q. State your name.

A. Rosa Boone.

Q. Where do you live?

A. Nansemond County.

Q. What state?

A. Virginia.

Q. Do you know Dennis Skeeter and Elsie Skeeter, the parties to this suit?

A. Yes.

Q. What relation are they to each other?

A. Man and wife.

Q. How long have you been knowing them?

A. Ever since I was large enough to know them.

Q. How long is that?

A. I have known Elsie ever since she was a baby and I have know Dennis ever since I was large enough to know anybody.

Q. Do you know when they were married?

A. Yes.

Q. Are they now living together?

A. No.

Q. Do you know when they separated?

A. March 20, 1927.

Q. What caused them to separate, do you know?

A. He would not work and support the children, nor neither her.

Q. Is that the only reason why he left her or she left him?

A. She did not leave him, he left her.

Q. How far do you live from them when they were living together as husband and wife?

A. About four miles.

Q. Did you ever visit them?

A. Yes about twice or three times a week.

Q. How did they live in their home, quiet and peacable?

A. They did not live like that, she would fuss with him because he could not work.

Q. Have you seen Dennis Skeeter lately?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever talked with him about coming back to live with his wife?

A. No.

Q. What kind of husband was he?

A. A bad husband.

Q. What do you mean when you say a bad husband?

A. He would not work.

Q. What kind of wife did Elsie make?

A. She was smart, supported herself and two children.

Q. Who supported him?

A. She did,

Q. Do you know which one left the other?

A. He left her.

Q. Do you know why he left her?

A. No.

Q. Whose fault was it he left?

A. His fault.

Q. Do you know whether or not Elsie is living at the same place she was living when she was married?

A. At the same place.

Q. Where is Dennis living now?

A. With his mother.

Q. Do you know now many children they have?

A. Two.

Q. Who supports the children?

A. Elsie supports one and he supports the other.

Q. Are you related to either Elsie or Dennis Skeeter?

A. Elsie is my sister's daughter.

And further this deponent saith not.

Roza Boone

* * * * *

Haywood Boone, being duly sworn, deposes as follows:

Q. State your name, age, address and occupation,

A. Haywood Boone; 32; Nansemond County; farmer.

Q. Do you know Elsie Skeeter and Dennis Skeeter, the parties to this suit?

A. Yes.

Q. How long have you been knowing them?

A. All my life.

Q. What relation are they to each other?

A. None.

Q. I don't think you caught my question. What relation are Elsie and Dennis Skeeter.

A. None- Oh, man and wife.

Q. Are they now living together?

A. No, sir.

Q. Why are they not living together?

A. Because he would not work.

Q. Is that the only reason they are not living together now?

A. Yes.

Q. Which one left the other?

A. Dennis left his wife.

Q. When did he leave, do you know?

A. March, 1927.

Q. Did you live near by them at the time they lived together?

A. Somewhere about four miles.

Q. Did you ever visit them?

A. Sometimes once or twice a week and I have stayed there a week at the time.

Q. How did they live in their home, peaceable and loving?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know why they did not live peaceably?

A. She was fussing at him all the time because he would not work and support the children.

Q. Did he do any kind of work at all that you know of?

A. No, sir.

Q. How did he live if he did not work?

A. She supported him.

Q. What kind of work did she do?

A. She worked at the restaurant.

Q. Do they own a home?

A. They rent.

Q. What did they rent a farm or just a house?

A. Just a house, that is all.

Q. What kind of wife did Elsie make?

A. She made a smart one.

Q. What kind of husband did Dennis make?

A. No sort as I see.

Q. Do you know where Dennis is now?

A. The last time I saw him was Sunday and he was out there with his mother.

Q. Have you talked with him recently?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know why he left Elsie?

A. Because he did not want to work.

Q. Did you know him before he married Elsie?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he work then?

A. No, sir, just worked for his Daddy.

Q. Are you any realtion to him?

A. No, sir.

Q. How long have you been knowing Elsie and Dennis?

A. All my life.

Q. How long have they been living in Nansemond County, State of Virginia?

A. I don't know exactly, about twenty-five years or some thing like that.

And further this deponent saith not.

Haywood Boone

STATE OF VIRGINIA,
COUNTY OF NANSEMOND, To-wit:

I, William M. Birdsong, Commissioner in Chancery for the Circuit Court of Nansemond County, Virginia, do hereby certify that the foregoing deposition was duly taken, reduced to writing and signed by the witnesses before me at the place and time therein mentioned, pursuant to the annexed notice.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand at Suffolk, in the County of Nansemond, Virginia, the State aforesaid, this 15th day of July, 1931.

William M. Birdsong
Commissioner in Chancery.

VIRGINIA: IN THE CIRCUIT

COURT OF NANSEMOND COUNTY.

Ellsia Skeeter

v. DEPOSITIONS

Dennis Skeeter

1931 July 28. filed.
J. L. M.

Elsie M. Skeeter, Plaintiff.

vs. DECREE.

Dennis Skeeter, Defendant.

This cause, in which the defendant has been duly served in person and he failing to appear and plead, answer or demur, came on this day to be heard upon the complainant's bill and exhibits and depositions of witnesses taken before a Commissioner in Chancery and filed herein, and was argued by counsel; and,

It appearing independently of admissions of either party in pleadings or otherwise, that the said parties were lawfully married on the 31st day of May, 1919, that in the month of March, 1927, the said defendant wilfully and without justification, abandoned and deserted the complainant, which desertion has been continous since the date of his leaving and for a period of more than three years prior to the institution of this suit; that the complainant is a bona fide resident of and has been domiciled in the County ~~of~~ Nansemond, in the State of Virginia, for a period of more than one year next before the bringing of this suit; that the parties last lived together, in the County of Nansemond, in the State of Virginia, and the defendant is a resident of Nansemond County, Virginia;

On consideration whereof , the Court doth order, adjudge and decree that the complainant Elsie M. Skeeter, be divorced A Vinculo Matrimony from the defendant, Dennis Skeeter, and the bonds of matrimony created by the aforesaid marriage be and they are hereby dissolved but neither of the parties hereto shall marry within six months ~~thereafter~~ of the entry of this decree.

Nothing further remaining to be done in this cause, it is ordered that the same be removed from the docket.

VIRGINIA:
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
OF NANSEMOND;

Elsie M. Skeeter, Plaintiff.

vs.

Dennis Skeeter, Defendant.

DECREE.

See Chancery Order Book
Page 434

Enter this 28 day of July, 1931

Jno. L. McClenny
Judge.

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE COUNTY OF NANSEMOND;

Elsie M. Skeeter, Plaintiff.

vs. BILL IN CHANCERY.

Dennis Skeeter, Defendant.

To the Honorable James J. McLemore, Judge of the Circuit Court of the County of Nansemond, Virginia.

Your complainant, Elsie M. Skeeter, respectfully represents: That on the 31st, day of May, 1919, whose maiden name was Elsie M. Skeeter, was lawfully married to Dennis Skeeter, in the City of Suffolk, Virginia, as will appear from a certificate of marriage Herewith filed, marked"Exhibit A", and made a part of this bill; and,

That continueously from the date of the said marriage until on or about the 20th, day of March, 1927, your complainant and the said Dennis Skeeter lived together as husband and wife in the County of Nansemond and State of Virginia; and,

That the said Dennis Skeeter, did willfully desert and abandon your complainant on the 20th, day of March, 1927, and before he deserted your complainant, he made a statement that "he was leaving to never return"; and,

That both the said defendant and your complainant reside in the County of Nansemond,and State of Virginia, and have resided and have been domiciled in this State ever since the aforesaid marriage and for more than one year next preceeding the commencing of this suit, and are domiciled and now reside in this state; and,

That your complainant last cohabited with the said Dennis Skeeter on the 20th, day of March, 1931, in the County of Nansemond and State of Virginia;

IN CONSIDERATION WHEREOF, and forasmuch as your complainant is remediless in the premises save in a court of equity, your complainant prays that the said Dennis Skeeter, may be made party defendant to this bill, and required, but not on oath, to answer the same the

the oath being hereby waived; that proper process may be issued; that a divorce from the bond of matrimony which was created by the aforesaid marriage be decreed her; and that your complainant may have all such further, and other, and general relief in the premises as the nature of her case may require, or to equity shall seem meet.

Elsie M. Skeuter
Complainant.

John H. Fulcher
Counsel.

VIRGINIA:
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
COUNTY OF NANSEMOND;

Elsie M. Skeeter, Plaintiff.

vs.

Dennis Skeeter, Defendant.

BILL IN CHANCERY.

Filed July 6 - 1931
Geo. H. Driver, Clerk
M. K. Leathers, Deputy Clerk

JOHN H. FULCHER
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
SUFFOLK, VIRGINIA.