

No. 72 March Term, 1909.

Charlotte Selina Morgan

vs,

Robert Josias Morgan.

Final Decree.

Filed Mch 21 1910

W. L. Parson

Theodore J. Grayson
Attorney for Plaintiff.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

Charlotte Selina Morgan : March Term, 1909.
vs. : No. 72.
Robert Josias Morgan : Subpoena in Divorce.

AND NOW, This 2nd day of March, A. D. 1910, after having examined the record in this case and it appearing to be regular, and that the facts in the libel set forth are true, and that notice of the rule for a final decree was duly served upon the respondent, it is ordered, adjudged and decreed that the said Charlotte Selina Morgan, the libellant, be and she is hereby divorced and forever separated from the nuptial ties or bonds of matrimony with the said Robert Josias Morgan, the respondent, and the said marriage is hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed to be wholly null and void, and all and every the duties, rights and claims accruing to either of the said parties, in pursuance to the said divorce, shall and do cease and determine.

By the Court,

W. B. Brownell, J.

State of Pennsylvania,

County of Delaware, ss:

In the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Delaware, State of Pennsylvania, among the records thereof at No. 72 March Term 1909 the following is contained to wit:

DOCKET ENTRIES:

March Term 1909

72 Charlotte Selina Morgan

vs

Robert Josias Morgan

Subpoena in Dis
mch. 18, 1909: Petition
filed, and Subpoena
Et sic Subpoena exit
Ret. 4th Mon. of April 1909.
non est inventus

Amount

v-eight

May 8, 1909: Order filed and Alias
Subpoena allowed.
Et sic Alias Subpoena exit,
Ret. 4th Mon. of June 1909
Served

May 17, 1909: Rule on respondent cause an
appearance and file answer within 30 days
from June 28, 1909. filed.

June 23, 1909: Respondent's answer to libel filed.

July 21, 1909: Petition for appointment of Master
and Order filed and W^m. B. Northam Esq.
appointed Master.

Et sic Order to Master exit.

Dec. 9, 1909: Report of Master filed.

July 26, 1910: Rule for final decree in divorce
filed

July 14, 1910: Proof of service of final rule
for divorce, etc. filed.

Charlotte Selina Morgan,
Libellant,
vs.
Robert Josias Morgan,
Respondent.

Court of Common Pleas of
Delaware County.
Mch Term, 1909.
No. *72*

LIBEL IN DIVORCE.

To the Honorable the Judges of the said Court.

The Libellant complains and says:--

FIRST. That the Libellant and Respondent were lawfully joined in marriage on the sixteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight at Muhlenberg Mission, Monrovia, Liberia, and from and after that time they lived together and cohabited in the relation of husband and wife.

SECOND. That at the time the said marriage was contracted the Libellant was a citizen of the State of Liberia, on the West coast of Africa, and resided at Upper Buchanan, Grand Bassas, Liberia; and the Respondent was also a citizen of Liberia and resided at the same place; that immediately after their said marriage, the said Libellant and Respondent resided together at Upper Buchanan, Liberia, and have since resided at

Upper Buchanan, Grand Bassas, Liberia,
Free Town, Sierra Leone,
Flushing, Long Island,
Elmira, New York,
Brooklyn, New York,

Bloom Hill, South Carolina,
 Wedgefield, South Carolina,
 George-town, Delaware,
 Bayard, Delaware,
 1827 Addison Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
 Wilmington, Delaware,
 Naudain Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
 Charles-Town, West Virginia,
 Allmantown, Kingston, Jamaica,
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
 Holmesburg, Pennsylvania,
 Asbury Park, New Jersey,
 Bainbridge Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
 Mervine " " "
 Sixth " " "

That the present residence of the Libellant is at No. 101
 Runnymede Avenue, Wayne, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and
 that she has been a resident of the State of Pennsylvania for
 one whole year previous to the filing of this libel, and that
 the present residence of the Respondent is Philadelphia, Penn-
 sylvania, at *245 South Sixth Street.*

THIRD. And the Libellant avers that, in violation
 of his marriage vow, and of the laws of this Commonwealth, the
 said ~~Robert Josias Morgan, the Respondent,~~ *both* offered such in-
 dignities to the person of the Libellant as to render her condi-
 tion intolerable, and life a burden, thereby compelling her to
 withdraw from his home and family.

Such conduct began soon after their said marriage as
 aforesaid, and continued until the spring of 1908, when Libel-

lant was compelled to leave the home of the Respondent.

During this time Respondent continually subjected Libellant to gross indignities, beat her unmercifully with his fists, even when pregnant, hid and destroyed her clothes, deprived her and her children of food and drink, treated her in the presence of other persons with a great deal of disrespect, using insulting, vile, indecent and threatening language, reviling her with oaths and profanity, and calling her indecent and opprobrious names.

Respondent not only treated the Libellant in the brutal and heartless manner above described, but he frequently entirely failed to give her and their children the most ordinary necessaries of life, or even proper food, and as a result of such treatment Libellant lost her health and strength, and her life was endangered.

FOURTH. Wherefore the Libellant prays that a subpoena may issue, directed to the said Robert Josias Morgan, the Respondent, commanding him to appear before your Honorable Court on Monday, the *Fourth, Monday* ~~day~~ of *April* next, A. D. 1909, to answer this libel and complaint; and also that a decree may be made by your Honorable Court divorcing her, the said Libellant, from the bonds of matrimony between her and the said Respondent.

Charlotte Selina Morgan

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA |
County of Delaware | Ss.

The above named Charlotte Selina Morgan being duly sworn according to law, says that the statements contained in

the above libel are true to the best of her knowledge, information and belief; and that the said complaint is not made out of levity or by collusion between her and the said Respondent, Robert Josias Morgan, for the mere purpose of being freed and separated from each other, but in sincerity and truth, for the causes mentioned in the said libel.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this

Second day of *March*

A. D. 1909.

Frank Smith | *Charlotte Selina*

Notary Public.

My commission expires

Feb. 5, 1911

No. 52 March Term 1809.

In the Court of Common
Pleas of Delaware County.

Charlotte Selma Morgan

vs

Robert Francis Morgan
his Executors

Libel in Writre

March 18. 1809

Subscribed

By the Court
James Johnson
Clerk

1809
1035

Thos. J. Morgan,
Attorney for the Plaintiff.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

To *Robert Josias Morgan*

Greeting:

WHEREAS,

Charlotte Selina Morgan

did on the *March 18, 1909*

present *her* petition to our Court of Common Pleas, praying for the causes therein set out that *she* might be divorced and separated from the nuptial ties and bonds of matrimony heretofore contracted with you, the said

Robert Josias Morgan

We therefore command you that setting aside all other business and excuses whatsoever you be and appear in your proper person before our Judge at Media, at a Court of Common Pleas, there to be held on the *Fourth* Monday of *April* A. D., 1909 to answer the said petition or libel of the said

Charlotte Selina Morgan

your *wife* and to show cause, if any you have, why the said

Charlotte Selina Morgan

your *wife* should not be divorced and separated from the nuptial ties and bonds of matrimony contracted as aforesaid

agreeably to the Act of General Assembly in such case made and provided. And hereof fail not

WITNESS THE HONORABLE ISAAC JOHNSON, President Judge of our said Court this *Eighteenth* day of *March* A. D., one thousand nine hundred and *nine* 1909.

A. P. D. [Signature]

1872 Mel 1909

Charlotte Selma Morgan

Robert Louis Morgan

Suburban in Service

325
100
425

253
Theodore Langworthy
City

Non Est Inventus

Joseph C. Gilliam
Sheriff

W. W. Wansler
Georgette Kahn
Deputy Sheriff

Non Est Inventus

W. W. Wansler
~~Deputy Sheriff~~ Sheriff

111

I do hereby deputize the Sheriff of Philadelphia County to serve the within writ.

Wm. H. ... Sheriff of Phila Co Pa

In the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County, Pa
Charlotte Selina Morgan } March Term 1909
vs } No 72
Robert Josias Morgan } Subpoena in Divorce

Issue an alias subpoena in above case returnable
the 4th Monday of June 1909

To A J Waller Esq
Protty

yours &
Theodore J. Grayson
Atty for libellant.

W. J. ...
Prothonotary.

Charlotte Silvia Oranger

no

John Lewis Morgan

Receipt for ~~Miss~~ Subpoena

May 8, 1909

Miss Subpoena returned
by the attorney of June 1, 1909

John Lewis Morgan
R.D.

FILED MAY 8 1909

[Signature]
PRO. PRINT.

253 U 1 Oldy . 11 0

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

To

Robert Josias Morgan

Greeting:

WHEREAS,

Charlotte Selina Morgan

did on the Eighteenth day of March, 1909

present her petition to our Court of Common Pleas, praying for the causes therein

set out that she might be divorced and separated from the nuptial ties and bonds of matrimony heretofore contracted with you, the said

Robert Josias Morgan

as before we did

We therefore command you, that setting aside all other business and excuses whatsoever you be and appear in your proper person before our Judge at Media, at a Court of Common Pleas, there to be held on the Fourth Monday of June A. D., 1909 to answer the said petition or libel of the said

Charlotte Selina Morgan

your wife and to show cause, if any you have, why the said

Charlotte Selina Morgan

your wife should not be divorced and separated from the nuptial ties and bonds of matrimony contracted as aforesaid

agreeably to the Act of General Assembly in such case made and provided. And hereof fail not

WITNESS THE HONORABLE ISAAC JOHNSON, President Judge of our said Court this Eighth day of May A. D., one thousand nine hundred and nine. 1909.

A. J. Dalton

Prothonotary.

By Jos. B. Leedom
Deputy Clerk

No 72 Md St 977

Robert Josias Morgan

135 So Market St

Wm's subpoena in divorce

3.50
9.50

SPH - 330.

Thomas J. Morgan City 1888

Served, Robert Josias Morgan the within-named Respondent, by giving to him at 2135 Webster St in the City of Philadelphia, on May 29th 1909, a true and attested copy of the within subpoena, together with a copy of the libel and notice to appear and answer, and making known to him the contents of the same

So answers,

Thomas J. Boyle

Deputy Sheriff.

Joseph Giffillan

Sheriff.

COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, ss.

Thomas J. Boyle being duly sworn according to law doth depose and say, that he served Robert Josias Morgan the within-named Respondent with a copy of the within subpoena, a copy of Libel and notice to appear and answer in manner and form set forth in the above return, and that the person upon whom service was made as aforesaid is the Respondent named in the writ, deponent deriving his information from the within named respondent

I do hereby deputize the Sheriff of Philadelphia County to serve the within writ and copy of Libe

to answer

[Signature] Sheriff del. Co.

Charlotte Selina Morgan
Defendant

[Signature]
Robert James Morgan
Respondent.

John G. Götting C. P.

} In the Court
C. P. of Delaw
County
March Term, 1909
no. 72

Enter Rule on Respondent to
cause an appearance to be entered for
him and an answer filed in the
above cause within thirty days from Monday
the 28 day of June next, A. D. 1909.

Theodore J. Grayson
atty for libella

No 92 March 7 1909

Charlotte S. Morgan

→
Robert Louis Morgan

Rule to answer to

FILED MAY 17 1909

J. B. P.
PRO. PROTBY.

Deputy Sheriff

Joseph Gilligan
Sheriff

71 and 12...

CHARLOTTE SELINA MORGAN, : Court of Common Pleas of
: :
Libellant, : Delaware County.
: :
vs. : March Term 1909.
: :
ROBERT JOSIAS MORGAN, : No. 72.
: :
Respondent. :

RESPONDENT'S ANSWER TO LIBEL IN DIVORCE.

The respondent, Robert Josias Morgan, to the libel of Charlotte Selina Morgan, in the above cause, makes answer as follows:

FIRST. The respondent admits the facts set forth in the First paragraph of the libel.

SECOND. To the facts set forth in the Second paragraph of the libel the respondent makes answer as follows:

The respondent was a citizen of Jamaica, W.I., at the time of the marriage between the libellant and the

respondent, was a missionary residing at Upper Buchanan, Grand Bassas, Liberia, where he had resided for about one year prior thereto. The libellant, to the best of respondent's knowledge, information and belief, at the said time was a citizen and resident of Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa.

Respondent admits that after the date of the said marriage the libellant and the respondent resided at Upper Buchanan, Grand Bassas, Liberia; Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa; Elmira, N.Y.; Brooklyn, N.Y.; Bloomhill, S. C.; Wedgefield, S.C.; Georgetown, Dela.; Holmesburg, Pa.; 1827 Addison Street, Philadelphia; Wilmington, Dela.; Naudain Street, Philadelphia; Wilmington, Dela.; Naudain Street, Philadelphia; Charlestown, W. Va.; Allmantown, Kingston, Jamaica, W.J.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Bainbridge St., Philadelphia; Mervine St., Philadelphia, and Sixth Street, Philadelphia.

The respondent also admits that he visited a number of times the libellant while she resided at Bayard, Dela., and Holmesburg, Pa., but denies that he ever resided at any of these said places.

The respondent believes that the libellant now lives at 101 Runnymede Avenue, Wayne, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and also that she has been a resident of the

State of Pennsylvania for one whole year previous to the filing of the libel. The respondent avers that his present residence is at 2135 Webster Street, Philadelphia.

THIRD. The respondent, in answer to the Third paragraph of the said libel, denies all and every allegation contained in said paragraph, and denies that he ever offered any indignities to the person of the libellant of any character whatever, much less any such indignities as to render her condition intolerable and life a burden thereby compelling her to withdraw from his home and family.

Respondent denies that any such conduct began soon after their marriage, or continued until the Spring of 1908, or that the libellant was compelled to leave the home of the respondent.

The respondent denies that he continuously subjected the libellant to gross indignities, or beat her unmercifully with his fist at any time, or hid and destroyed her clothing, or deprived her and their children of food and drink, or treated her, in the presence of any other persons, with a great deal of disrespect, or used insulting, vile, indecent and threatening language, reviling her with oaths and profanity and calling her indecent and opprobrious

names.

Respondent denies that he ever treated the libellant in a brutal and heartless manner, or that he failed to give her and their children the necessaries of life or proper food, or that by reason of any treatment of the respondent the libellant lost her health and strength or endangered her life.

FOURTH. In further answer to the libel in the above cause, the respondent avers that at the date of the marriage hereinbefore set forth he was a Lay Reader and Teacher of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and located at Liberia as a missionary and teacher. At the present time the respondent is an ordained priest of the Greek Orthodox Church, and a resident of Philadelphia, Pa. That for several months after the marriage of the libellant and the respondent they lived happily together in Liberia, but at the end of said period the libellant began to make unjust and unfounded accusations against the respondent and to distress and annoy him daily by her accusations and actions, and to hinder him in the prosecution of his work as a missionary. This continued for about twenty months, at the end of which time the libellant deserted the respondent for about three months. At the expiration of said three

months the respondent left Liberia and came to America and resided in America. When about two years had elapsed the libellant came to America, and wrote to the respondent expressing penitence, and asking that he take her back, which he did. They resided together in various places in America, set forth in the Second paragraph of this answer, but the libellant, shortly after her return to the respondent, again began to unjustly accuse the respondent and to create such disturbances in his household, church and parish that he was repeatedly compelled to give up his charge and move elsewhere. The libellant also deserted the respondent on many occasions, remaining away as long as two years at a time, and on several occasions while he was temporarily absent she disposed of or removed ^{and in some instances sold} all of the furniture, leaving him without a home.

The respondent has always sent money to the libellant for her support and for the support of their ~~two~~ children whenever he knew her whereabouts, even while she was away from him. The two children born to the libellant and respondent ^{now living} have resided part of the time with the libellant and part of the time with the respondent, and their daughter has resided with the respondent for about a year last past, and the son has resided with the libellant for the same period. The respondent was last deserted by

the libellant in July 1908, when they were residing in the City of Philadelphia, and the respondent has not known of the whereabouts of the said libellant until the libel in this case was served upon him in the latter part of May or the early part of June 1909.

FIFTH. The respondent further avers that he has always treated the libellant with kindness, consideration and affection, was always ready and willing to furnish her with a home and with support, and always has had a home in which she and their said children could live and be provided for.

That the libellant is of a jealous and suspicious, vindictive and vicious nature, and of a violent temper, and since shortly after the date of their marriage, has unjustly accused the respondent of misconduct, has deserted him many times, has broken up his work in the various mission fields in which he has been laboring, and has continuously annoyed, hindered and interfered with his work as a minister, and has made his life intolerable and wretched. This condition of affairs has continued up until July, 1908, when the libellant and respondent were residing together, with their two children, at 245 South Sixth Street, Philadelphia, where the Greek Church then was

and where the priest of the Greek Church also resided. While the libellant and the respondent were living there in July of 1908, her conduct was so unbecoming that the respondent spoke to her concerning it, but without avail. The white priest of the said Greek Church then remonstrated with her for her said conduct, whereupon she became violently abusive of both him and of the respondent, using vile language and creating a disturbance. The following day, during the absence of the respondent for a few hours, she left their home, taking the boy, a lad of about eight years of age, with her, and has remained away from the respondent ever since.

WHEREFORE, the respondent prays that the libel may be dismissed.

Robert Josias Morgan.

State of Pennsylvania, :
County of Philadelphia : ss.

Robert Josias Morgan, being duly sworn, according to law, deposes and says that he is the respondent in the above entitled cause; and that the facts set forth in the foregoing answer are true.

Sworn to and subscribed :
before me this day :
of June A.D. 1909. :

Robert Josias Morgan.

J. M. [Signature]
Notary Public

My commission expires July 26, 1913.

Charlotte Selina Morgan

Libellant,

vs.

Robert Josias Morgan

Respondent.

C. P. of Delaware County.

March Term, 1909.

No. 72.

And now, this *Twenty-sixth* day of July, A.D. 1909, Theodore J. Grayson, Attorney for Libellant, moves your Honorable Court to appoint a Master in the above case, an answer having been filed, and neither party having demanded a jury trial.

Theodore J. Grayson

Attorney for Libellant.

10 1 1

Charlotte S. Morgan

Robert Josias Morgan

Rule to answer to

FILED MAY 17 1909

J.B.S.
PND PROTRY.

Wm S. Grayson atty

Joseph Gillilan
Sheriff.

COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA, ss.

Thomas J Boyle being duly sworn according to law doth depose and say, that he served Robert Josias Morgan the within-named Respondent with a copy of the within subpoena, a copy of Libel and notice to appear and answer in manner and form set forth in the above return, and that the person upon whom service was made as aforesaid is the Respondent named in the writ, deponent deriving his information from the within named respondent

Charlotte Selina Morgan
Libellant,
vs.
Robert Josias Morgan,
Respondent.

C. P. of Delaware County.
March Term, 1909.
No. 72.

DECREE.

And now, this *21st* day of July, A.D. 1909, on motion of Theodore J. Grayson Esq., Attorney for Libellant, the Court appoints *Wm B Northman Esq* Master in the above case.

By the Court.

Lucas D. Grayson
[Signature]

No. 72, March Term, 1909.

Charlotte Selina Morgan

vs.

Robert Josias Morgan.

Subpoena in Divorce.

Rule for Final Decree.

FILED JAN 26 1910

W. J. L.
PROTH'Y.

C. P., Delaware Co.

March Term 1909.

No. 72.

Charlotte Selina Morgan
Libellant.

vs.

Robert Josias Morgan
Respondent

DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO LIBEL
IN DIVORCE.

FILED JUN 23 1909

J.S.

PROTH'Y.

F., Delaware Co.

March Term 1909.

No. 72.

Matte Selina Morgan
Libellant.

vs.

Robert Josias Morgan
Respondent

DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO LIBEL
IN DIVORCE.

JUN 23 1909

W.D.
PROTHM.

Delaware County, ss:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

TO *Wm B. Northam, Esq*

GREETING:

Know you that we in confidence of your integrity, have given unto you full power and authority
of a rule made in our Court of Common Pleas for Delaware County aforesaid, between

Charlotte Selina Morgan

Libellant, and

Robert Josias Morgan

Respondent,

to call before you at a certain day and place, by you for that purpose to be appointed, all and every person or persons who may be named to you, by said parties or either of them, and then and there to examine them on their oaths and affirmations, ~~on certain interrogatories hereunto annexed,~~ touching the premises, and to reduce their testimony to writing, and return the same, together with a report of the proceedings before you, and your opinion of the case to the Court, together with this commission.

WITNESS THE HONORABLE *Leane Johnson* ~~THOMAS J. CLAYTON~~, Judge of our said Court, at Media, this

21st day of *July*
nine 1909

A. D., one thousand *nine hundred and*

Joe B. Leedom
Deputy

PROTHONOTARY.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF DELAWARE COUNTY, PENN.

CHARLOTTE SELINA MORGAN
Libellant

#72 M.T. 1909.

vs.

In Divorce.

ROBERT JOSIAS MORGAN,
Respondent.

Master's Report.

To the Honorables the Judges of the said Court:

The Under signed master in the above case begs to report as follows.

On October 23rd, 1909, at Eleven o'clock A.M. at the office of the master, # 54 Cambridge Bldg., Chester Pa., it appearing that personal service of the Subpoena was made upon the respondent, Robert Josias Morgan, a meeting in the above case was held for the purpose of taking testimony. Ten days notice of said meeting was given to said Respondent by registered letter addressed to #2135 Webster Street, Philadelphia. Copy of said notice, and the return registry receipt is hereto annexed.

At the said meeting there were present Charlotte Selina Morgan, the libellant, Personally. Theodore J. Grayson, Esq. Counsel for the libellant. And Julia Bellinger, a witness. The Respondent did not appear.

From the testimony in the case, hereto annexed, the master reports that in his opinion the grounds alleged in the application for Divorce are well founded.

The libellant and Respondent were married at Muhlenberg Mission, Monrovia, Liberia, on the 16th day of December, 1888. After their marriage they resided at various places in different parts of the world which appear in

detail in the testimony. The libellant testified that respondent had destroyed the marriage certificate, therefore, it was not produced in evidence; but the respondent admits in his answer to the libel in the above case that respondent and libellant were lawfully married. They cohabited as man and wife in the State of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia in four different periods. The first time in 1896 (page 7 of testimony) possibly a year. The second time from 1899 to 1902 (page 7 of testimony). The third time in 1904 for about a year (page 8 of testimony). The fourth time, from 1906 until July 10th, 1908, (page 9 of testimony). Since 1906 the libellant has been a resident of the State of Pennsylvania. The libel in the above case was filed on March 18, 1909, therefore the libellant resided in this state one whole year previous to filing her libel. At the time of filing her libel she resided at #101 Runnymede Ave. Wayne, Delaware County, Pa.

The testimony shows that from about two weeks after the marriage of the respondent and libellant the respondent has subjected libellant to almost constant indignities, abuse, and cruel and barbarous treatment such as to render her condition intolerable and her life a burden. And as the testimony will show on pages 7, 8, and 9, the libellant was subjected continuously to this cruel and barbarous treatment on the part of the respondent during the four periods they cohabited as man and wife in the State of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia. They separated finally about July 10th, 1908, while living at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and respondent has lived in this state since, and so has libellant. This court, therefore, has jurisdiction of both parties and the subject matter.

The master, therefore, is of the opinion that the respondent, the said Robert Josias Morgan, in violation of his marriage vow, and the laws of this Commonwealth, hath offered such indignities to the person of the libellant as to render her condition intolerable and her life a burden thereby compelling her to withdraw from his home and family; and recommends that the prayer of the libellant be granted and that a decree be made separating him the said Robert Josias Morgan, respondent, from the society, fellowship, and the Company of the libellant in all time to come, and her the said Charlotte Selina Morgan from the marriage bond contracted with the said respondent, as if they had never been married, or as if the said Robert Josias Morgan were naturally dead.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. Northam
Master

REGISTRY RETURN RECEIPT

Form 1543

25175

Court of Common Pleas
Lower County of No.
March Term, 1909.

The above case has been assigned to me as Master, and I have fixed Saturday, October 23rd, 1909, at Eleven O'clock A. M., as the time, and my office, 474 Cambridge Building, Fifth and Market Streets.

Charlotte Selina Morgan, : C. C. P., Del. Co.,
Libellant, :
vs. : March Term, 1909,
: No. 72.
Robert Josias Morgan, :
Respondent. :

Meeting held, after due notice given to all the parties in interest, at the office of William B. Northam, Esq., Master, 54 Cambridge Building, Chester, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, October 23rd, 1909, at eleven o'clock A. M.

Present: William B. Northam, Esq., Master;
Theodore J. Grayson, Esq., counsel for Libellant;
Charlotte Selina Morgan, Libellant;
Julia Bellinger, Witness.

Charlotte Selina Morgan, called after being duly sworn as a witness, testified as follows:-

(By Mr. Grayson)

- Q. Mrs. Morgan, you are the libellant in this case?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Where do you reside?
A. At 101 Runnymede Ave., Wayne, Delaware County, Pa.
Q. What is your occupation?
A. House-keeping.
Q. For whom?
A. Dr. Robert P. Elmer and family.
Q. Residing at the above address?
A. Residing at the above address.
Q. When were you married to the respondent?

A. The 16th of December, 1888.

Q. Where?

A. At Muhlenberg Mission, Monrovia, Liberia.

Q. From and after that time you lived and co-habited together in the relation of husband and wife?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is this the first time you were married?

A. The first time in my life.

Q. You have never been married any other time?

A. No.

Q. At the time of your marriage you were a citizen of what country?

A. Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Q. Did you get a marriage certificate?

A. I did.

Q. What became of it?

A. My husband destroyed it. He took it away from me and destroyed it when we were in Wedgefield. He stole it from my trunk and destroyed it.

Q. After your marriage, where did you and the respondent reside during your married life?

A. Upper Buchanan, Grand Basas, Liberia - the first place we resided -; Freetown, Sierra Leone; Flushing, Long Island; Elmira, New York; Brooklyn, New York; Bloom Hill, South Carolina; Wedgefield, South Carolina; Georgetown, Delaware; Bayard, Delaware; 1827 Addison Street, Philadelphia, - the first house we ever lived in in Philadelphia -; Wilmington, Delaware; Naudain Street, Philadelphia, Pa.; Charles-town, West Virginia; Almantown, Kingston, Jamaica; Philadelphia; Holmesburg, Penna.; Asbury Park, New Jersey; Bainbridge Street, Philadelphia, Penna.; Mervine Street, Philadelphia, Pa.;

and Sixth Street, Philadelphia, Penna.

Q. For how long before the date of the filing of this libel had you been a resident of the State of Pennsylvania?

A. More than a year.

Q. What is the present residence of the respondent, if you know?

A. 2146 Webster Street, Philadelphia, at present.

Q. Were there any children as the issue of this marriage?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many?

A. Five.

Q. How many are living?

A. Two, at present.

Q. What are their names?

A. Roberta Viola Morgan.

Q. How old is she?

A. In her fourteenth year.

Q. And the other?

A. Cyril Ignatius Morgan.

Q. How old is he?

A. Nine years old, in his tenth year.

Q. Does the little girl live with you?

A. No, with her father.

Q. Does the little boy live with you?

A. Yes.

Q. You say in your libel in the third paragraph, that the said Robert Josias Morgan, the respondent, has offered such indignities to your person as to render your condition intolerable and your life a burden, thereby compelling you to leave him?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Go on and tell the master all the facts from the date of your marriage to the present date, upon which you base your assertion.

A. He mistreated me and called me names.

Q. How long was this after your marriage?

A. Just two weeks after my marriage. He also slapped me and called me a ~~whore~~^{T.P.G.}. We lived there for three weeks, and the third week we left there and went to Monrovia. In Monrovia he did the same thing. Sometimes when walking in the street, he would leave my side and walk away from me as ~~fast~~^{T.P.G.} as he could go, and I had to get home the best that I could.

Q. Where was it that he slapped you?

A. In the house in Monrovia, where we were residing, waiting for the steamer, as the steamer comes there very slow, because the woman there was a lady friend of mine, and he prohibited me having anything to do with her. He slapped me for just saying "good-morning" to the lady. He then left, taking a steamer to Grand Basas.

Q. Did you go with him?

A. I did not. He went ahead, and I followed him shortly after.

Q. What happened in Grand Basas?

A. In Grand Basas he had a mistress in the house, who did the housekeeping.

Q. Were you present? Did you live in the house at the same time?

A. I was living in the house then, and I discovered afterwards that this woman was his paramour. He abused me because of my refusing to have the woman do anything for me, and he beat me. This occasion when he beat me was about four weeks after

our marriage. It consisted of going into the yard, cutting down a stick of a tree, bringing it into the house and wearing it out on me. He deprived me of food, on account of my refusing to allow this woman to work for us. For two or three days - sometimes a week - I would have nothing from him in the way of food. All the food I would get, I would get from the neighbors. He would also take the native boy that we had by the name of Thomas and prevent him from doing anything for me, and when I would say something against that, he would strike me on the mouth with his clenched fist. He left me and went to England, and I went to Edina, Grand Basas, Liberia. And three months later, on his return, he joined me at Freetown, Sierra Leone, at my sister's. He was cruel to me there, and would slap me and would knock me down. He would not pay his laundry, and I asked for money to pay his laundry, and he wanted it done for nothing. It was on that account that he slapped me. We went back to Upper Buchanan, Grand Basas, and here he would beat me for objecting to his numerous love affairs. He was arrested as the result of his brutal treatment of me, and was put under bonds to keep the peace for six months. This was in Grand Basas, Liberia. He left then and came to the United States. It was in 1890 when he left for the United States. He refused to take me with him.

About January 15th, 1892, I landed in New York City and joined him in April, 1892. I joined him in Flushing, Long Island. Through letters which he had written to me and through the intercessions of his friends, reconciliation was effected.

We went to Elmira, New York, shortly afterwards. In Elmira, New York, he refused to give me sufficient food, and he refused to furnish me with food for one and two weeks at a time, compelling me to get food from the neighbors. He choked me also

because I objected to his writing letters to numerous women. He would beat me in the dead hour of the night, without any occasion whatever. We separated in Elmira on account of brutal treatment. He was brutal to me in Elmira, when I was in a delicate condition.

We joined each other again in Brooklyn, New York, and in three months he left to seek work in the South.

In 1893 we went to Bloomhill, where he did not provide for me, and was living with another woman. He still beat me and abused me because I objected to these women. He beat me so in Bloom Hill that I was compelled to leave him and live with a neighbor. A month after that we became reconciled and lived together in Wedgefield, South Carolina. He beat me so brutally here without any cause, except his insane desire to prevent me from speaking to any of the neighbors, that, as a result of his constant beating and the noise and disturbance caused by them, he received a note from the white citizens to the effect that, if he did not stop beating me or leave town, they would tar and feather him. He left me and my first child, about a year old, at Wedgefield without any means of support.

In Georgetown, Delaware, we again became reconciled through the efforts of the late Bishop Coleman of Delaware, and we lived there for about two weeks.

We next lived together in Bayard, Delaware, and he continued his practice of forbidding me to speak to people or to have anything to do with any one excepting himself. He constantly cursed and swore at me, calling me all sorts of vile, filthy and opprobrious names, beating me, knocking me down, kicking me, trampling on me, burning my clothes, tearing

my clothes off my back, depriving me of food, and making my life a burden to me.

We next went to live at 1827 Addison Street, Philadelphia, and it was at that time that we roomed in the same house with Mrs. Bellinger, where the same ⁷⁹⁸ kind of treatment continued. I was again in a delicate condition - in 1896 - and he was, if possible, even more unkind and brutal than he had been previously. He continued beating me without cause, still insisting that I should have nothing to do with any one but himself. He accused me of all sorts of improper conduct, of which I was not guilty - of drunkenness, and keeping late hours - things which I never did; and whenever he was in a devilish humor, which was very frequently, he would strike, and beat and kick me, cursing me and reviling me all the time. Some of these things he did in the presence of Mrs. Bellinger.

We left this place in 1897, about February, and went to Wilmington, Delaware. He again beat me without cause, reviling and cursing me.

We next lived together in 1899 at Naudain Street, Philadelphia, with Mrs. Woods. During 1898 I was separated from him, on account of his brutal treatment; and we were reconciled again as the result of his protestations that he would lead a better life, and writing me many penitent letters. We lived there about seven months, and then we went to 18th and South Streets, and lived with Mrs. Hill. We then left Mrs. Hill and went to another house, the address of which I do not remember - somewhere south of Carpenter Street, and during this time his unkind treatment continued, but I was able to live with him, although he would occasionally curse and beat me.

After leaving this last house, we went to Charles-town, West Virginia, in ¹⁹⁰² 1899, where he beat me with his fist on the

face and head, and caused me to bite through my tongue, making my jaws so swollen that I could not eat; throwing dishes at me, and generally abusing me in every way that he could. His treatment towards me was so brutal and so notoriously bad, that the neighbors reported him to his Bishop, and he was discharged as a Deacon in the Episcopal Church.

We then left and went to the West Indies, and went to Amantown, Kingston, Jamaica. After we got there, the respondent left me when I was sick in bed, with no food in the house, and went to visit his mother at Chapleton, Clarendon, Jamaica. I wrote to him frequently for assistance, but he would write back and tell me that, if I wanted help, I must help myself and work for it. He gave me no food or money or support of any kind. He lived openly with another woman in Chapleton, Clarendon, and caused me great mortification and shame. Finally, my condition became so desperate, that I wrote to my friend, Mrs. Sadler in Philadelphia, and she sent me enough money to come home, and I sold out my personal effects, and, with the money I realized from the sale and the little she had sent me, I came back to the United States - this was in July, 1903.

We did not become reconciled again until 1904, when we lived together once more at sixteen hundred and something Webster Street, Philadelphia. We lived there for about a year, and I paid the rent and supported him and myself and my children during that time. He was still very brutal and unkind to me, beating me and cursing me in the manner I have already described.

He then deserted me in 1904, and I moved to Holmesburg, where he again joined me, and the same brutal treatment continued there.

He rejoined me again at Asbury Park in 1905. I paid for his board and his clothing at that place, and he still con-

tinued to curse and beat me, and stole all my money, and said that he would "raise hell".

We next lived together at Mrs. Harwood's on Bainbridge Street, Philadelphia, in 1906, and the same ~~brutal~~ brutal treatment continued.

In December, 1906, we moved to Mervine Street, and lived there until the last week in April. In April, 1907, I left him on account of his brutal treatment, and I went to Mrs. West, and, after a short time, I took service with Mrs. Elmer at Wayne, Penna. Later, in 1908, after he had come out to Wayne and entreated me to return to ^{him} me, and promised all sorts of things if I only would, I thought I would give him another trial, and I rejoined him at 235 South Sixth Street, Philadelphia, where I lived with him until July 10th, 1908, when his continued brutal treatment, consisting, as I have said before, of almost constant beatings, cursings and other ill treatment, caused me to leave him finally, and I have never returned to him since or lived with him as husband and wife. The night before I left, he turned me out into the street at eleven o'clock at night, dressed only in my night clothes, and forcibly kept me out of the house until about one o'clock, without any cause whatsoever excepting his own vicious and ugly temper. His brutal conduct towards me practically continued without interruption from two weeks after the date of our marriage until the time when I left him in 1908.

Disposition taken, reduced to writing read to witness and by her affirmed and subscribed to before me, October 23, 1909.

Mrs. Charlotte S. Morgan

Wm. B. Northam, writer.

Julia Bellinger called, after being duly sworn as a witness, testified as follows:-

(By Mr. Grayson)

Q. Mrs. Bellinger, where do you reside?

A. Now, 807 South 16th Street, Philadelphia.

Q. Do you know the libellant in this case,- Mrs. Morgan?

A. I do.

Q. How long have you known her?

A. I have known her for about fourteen years.

Q. Do you know the respondent in this case, the Reverend Robert Josias Morgan?

A. Yes, I do.

Q. How long have you known him?

A. The same time.

Q. When did you first meet the respondent and the libellant?

A. They came to my house in Addison Street, and lived with me.

Q. When was that?

A. In 1896.

Q. Did they live there together as man and wife?

A. Yes.

Q. Were they known as man and wife?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you observe their conduct towards each other at that time?

A. Yes, I did.

Q. How did Mrs. Morgan treat Mr. Morgan?

A. She treated him like a wife, and like a lady.

Q. How did he treat her?

A. Very rough.

Q. What did you see?

A. I saw him beat her with his fist over the face and head, slapped her and pulled her by the hair from the bath room over to their bed room.

Q. When was that?

A. During the time they lived there.

Q. What else did you see?

A. He shoved her down the stairs in my house, and beat her, and I remonstrated with him and told him I could not allow such treatment of a woman in my house. He never gave her anything to eat, and when I fed her, he would get mad, and start and beat her again, because I gave her food. I heard him constantly cursing and reviling her in their room, and he would make so much noise and trouble that I would have to go upstairs and beat on the door and tell him to stop.

Q. Did he do anything else in the house?

A. One day he came in in a terrible temper, and went to her and slapped her and tore her clothes, and cut up a new pair of shoes. That continued all the time until they left. They lived in the house with me for about three years.

Julia Bellinger

*Witnessed by me
and J. B. Bellinger
on this 1st day of
June 1894
at the residence of
Mrs. B. Bellinger*

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

Charlotte Selina Morgan : March Term 1909.
vs. : No. 72.
Robert Josias Morgan. : Divorce.

AND NOW, this twenty-fourth day of January 1910. the Master's report in the above case having been filed recommending a divorce, on motion of Theodore J. Grayson, Libellant's attorney, a rule is granted on the Respondent to show cause why a divorce A. V. M. should not be decreed.

Returnable Saturday, February 12th, 1910 at nine o'clock A. M.

By the Court,

James Johnson

Master,

When and

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By the Court
a. j. Dalton
Prothonotary. 