

DOCKET B. 730/1934

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

Ardis Steele Gordon

vs.

Frank J. Gordon

DEPOSITIONS

B No. 39816

PLAINTIFF'S COSTS

Examiner \$
Copies
Notices
Sheriff
Stenographer

\$

DEFENDANT'S COSTS

Examiner \$
Copies
Notices
Sheriff
Stenographer

\$

GEORGE ARNOLD FRICK, Examiner

Filed 18 day of March 1935

.....
Ardis Steele Gordon

vs.

.....
Frank J. Gordon
.....

In the Circuit Court.....
OF BALTIMORE CITY

.....
A Decree Pro Confesso having been passed,
.....

and notice having been given me by the Solicitor for the Plaintiff
of a desire to take testimony in the same, I, GEORGE ARNOLD FRICK, one
of the Standing Examiners of the Circuit Courts of Baltimore City, under and by
virtue of an order of the above named Circuit Court, passed in said cause on the
eighth day of February, 1935, met on
the 22nd day of February in the year nineteen
hundred and thirty five, at my office, in the City of Baltimore, in the
State of Maryland, and assigned the 23rd day of February
in the same year at ten o'clock in the fore noon and the
office of the Examiner in the City and State
aforesaid, as the time and place for such examination of witnesses in said cause;
at which last mentioned time and place I attended, due notice of such meeting
having been given, and proceeded in the presence of the Solicitor.....of the
Plaintiff.....to take the following deposition, that
is to say:

TESTIMONY taken at the office of George Arnold Frick, Examiner, on Saturday, February 23, 1935, at ten o'clock in the morning.

Present: Thurgood Marshall, Counsel for the Plaintiff.

Thereupon:

ARDIS STEELE GORDON, the Plaintiff, produced as a witness on her own behalf, being first duly sworn according to law, deposeth and saith as follows - that is to say -

BY THE EXAMINER:

1 Q- State your name, residence and occupation?

A- Ardis Steele Gordon, 2553 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

2 Q- What is your occupation?

A- Teacher.

3 Q- You are the Plaintiff in this proceeding?

A- Yes, sir.

4 Q- How long have you known the Defendant, Frank J. Gordon?

A- Four years.

Ardis Steele Gordon

BY MR. MARSHALL:

5 Q- Mrs. Gordon, have you been a resident of the City of Baltimore and the State of Maryland for more than two years prior to the filing of your suit?

A- Yes, sir, I have.

6 Q- When, where and by whom were you married to the Defendant?

A- In Gallipolis, Ohio, June 14, 1931.

NOTE: The marriage certificate is now offered in evidence and filed with the Examiner marked "Plaintiff's Exhibit Examiner No. 1."

7 Q- Any children born as the result of your marriage?

A- No.

8 Q- Mrs. Gordon, have you always been a kind, chaste and affectionate wife towards your husband?

A- Yes, I have.

9 Q- Are you and your husband now living together?

A- No.

10 Q- When were you separated?

A- About the 15th of October, 1931.

11 Q- Which one left the other?

A- He left me.

12 Q- Did he say anything when he left as to whether he would come back - did he say anything as to whether he would

Ardis Steele Gordon

live with you or not again?

A- He said he wasn't coming back.

13 Q- Did you give him any just cause or provocation for leaving you?

A- No.

14 Q- Was this desertion and abandonment his own deliberate and final act?

A- Yes.

15 Q- Is there any hope of a reconciliation on the part of you two?

A- No.

16 Q- Is the Defendant a resident or a non-resident of the State of Maryland?

A- Non-resident.

17 Q- Where was he living when you last heard of him or heard from him?

A- In Alabama.

18 Q- And what part of Alabama?

A- Tuskegee.

19 Q- In the State of Alabama?

A- Yes.

20 Q- Do you desire to resume your maiden name?

A- Yes.

21 Q- What is your maiden name?

A- Steele.

MR. MARSHALL: That's all.

QUESTION BY THE EXAMINER:

Do you know or can you state any other matter or thing that may be of benefit or advantage to the parties to this suit or either of them or that may be material to the subject of this your examination or the matters in question between the parties? If so, state the same fully and at large in your answer.

Answer:

No.
Ardis Steele Gordon

RUTH S. JOHNSON, produced as a witness on behalf of the Plaintiff, being first duly sworn according to law, deposeth and saith as follows - that is to say -

BY THE EXAMINER:

1 Q- State your name, residence and occupation?

A- Ruth S. Johnson, 1907 15th Street, Washington, D.C.

2 Q- What is your occupation?

A- House wife.

3 Q- Do you know the parties to this suit?

A- Yes, I do.

4 Q- How long have you known them?

A- Well, I have known the Plaintiff all my life.

5 Q- Is she related to you?

A- She is my sister.

6 Q- How long have you known him?

A- I have known him about six years.

BY MR. MARSHALL:

7 Q- Mrs. Johnson, were you present at the wedding?

A- No, I wasn't.

8 Q- Did you know them when they lived together, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon?

Ruth S. Johnson

A- Yes, I did.

9 Q- Did they live together as man and wife and hold themselves out in the community as such and were they so treated by their friends and acquaintances?

A- Yes.

10 Q- Has the Plaintiff been a resident of the City of Baltimore and the State of Maryland for more than two years prior to the filing of this suit?

A- Yes, she has.

11 Q- Any children born as the result of said marriage?

A- No.

12 Q- Has the Plaintiff always been a kind, chaste and affectionate wife towards her husband?

A- Yes, she has.

13 Q- Are they living together now?

A- No.

14 Q- Which one left the other?

A- He left her.

15 Q- About when did the separation occur?

A- In October, 1931.

16 Q- Did she give him any cause or provocation for him to leave her?

A- No.

17 Q- Did he say anything when he left as to whether or

Ruth S. Johnson

not he would return or live with her again?

A- He said he wasn't coming back any more.

18 Q- In your mind, is this desertion of her his deliberate and final act?

A- Yes.

19 Q- Has the separation continued uninterruptedly for more than three years prior to the filing of this suit?

A- They have not lived together since.

20 Q- Since 1931?

A- Yes.

21 Q- Do you think there is any hope of a reconciliation between them?

A- No.

22 Q- Is the Defendant a resident or a non-resident of the State of Maryland?

A- Non-resident.

23 Q- Where was he when you last heard of him or from him?

A- In Alabama.

24 Q- In the State of Alabama?

A- Yes.

MR. MARSHALL: That's all.


QUESTION BY THE EXAMINER:

Do you know or can you state any other matter or thing that may be of benefit or advantage to the parties to this suit or either of them or that may be material to the subject of this your examination or the matters in question between the parties? If so, state the same fully and at large in your answer.

Answer: *No.*

Ruth Steele Johnson

No other witnesses being named or produced before me, I then at the request of the Solicitor.....of the Plaintiff..... closed the depositions taken in said cause, and now return them closed under my hand and seal on this..... 18th..... day of March..... in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty five....., at the City of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland.

George Arnold Frick
Examiner. 

There ~~are~~ is one..... Exhibits with these depositions, to wit:
Plaintiff's Exhibit Examiner No. 1.

Defendant's Exhibit.....

George Arnold Frick
Examiner.

I, GEORGE ARNOLD FRICK, the Examiner before whom the foregoing depositions were taken, do hereby certify that I was employed in assigning a day and taking the said depositions upon..... two..... days, on..... both..... of which I was employed by the plaintiff....., and on..... none..... by the defendant.....

George Arnold Frick
Examiner.

3-13-7-32

CIRCUIT COURT

B.....730.....
1934

No. 74 Docket

.....ARDIS STEELE GORDON.....

VS.

.....FRANK J. GORDON.....

Decree of Divorce
Recorded

Folio 203 1935

B No. 39816
(8)

Ed 1st June 1935.

DECREE OF DIVORCE.

ARDIS STEELE GORDON

vs.

FRANK J. GORDON

IN THE
CIRCUIT COURT

-OF-
BALTIMORE CITY

May TERM, 1935

This cause standing ready for hearing and being duly submitted, the proceedings were by the Court read and considered.

It is Thereupon, This 1st day of June, A. D. 1935, by the Circuit Court of Baltimore City, Adjudged, Ordered and Decreed, that the said - - -
- ARDIS STEELE GORDON -

the above named Complainant, be and she is hereby DIVORCED A VINCULO MATRIMONII from the Defendant, the said FRANK J. GORDON.

AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that said complainant be and she is hereby authorized to resume her maiden name: ARDIS STEELE.

And it is Further Ordered, That the said complainant - - - pay the cost of this proceeding.

Joseph N. Whelan

The within is a proper decree to be passed in
this case

Ward B. Dye
Auditor and Master

CIRCUIT COURT

Circuit Court

1935

Docket No. 74B
730

Ardis Steele Gordon

vs.

Frank. J. Gordon

Order of Reference and Report

lcc

No. B 39816

(7)

Order Filed 17 day of May 1935

Report Filed 31 day of May 1935

Ardis Steele Gordon

vs.

Frank J. Gordon

IN THE
Circuit Court

OF
BALTIMORE CITY

May Term, 1935

This case being submitted, without argument, it is ordered by the Court, this 17th day of May, 1935 that the same be and it is hereby referred to Ward B. Coe, Esq., Auditor and Master, to report the pleadings and the facts, and his opinion thereon.

Joseph N. Newman

Report of Auditor and Master

Bill for divorce a vinculo matrimonii and for the resumption of her maiden name filed by the wife against her husband on the ground of abandonment. Code Art. 16, secs. 37-42.

Defendant proceeded against as a non-resident and his non-residence proven.

Plaintiff's residence in Baltimore City for more than two years proven.

The marriage proven.

The abandonment for three years, its finality, and the irreconcilability of the parties proven.

A decree pro confesso was passed against the defendant and more than thirty days have since elapsed.

Case ready for decree.

Ward B. Coe
Auditor and Master
May 17, 1935

750

Circuit Court

B 730
1935

Docket No.

ARDIS STEELE GORDON

VS.

FRANK J. GORDON

Decree Pro Confesso

Fried

B No. 39816
(4)

Filed *8th* day of *Feby*, 1935

[DECREE PRO CONFESSO]

ARDIS STEELE GORDON

vs.

FRANK J. GORDON

IN THE
CIRCUIT COURT
OF
BALTIMORE CITY

January

Term, 193*5*

The Defendant FRANK J. GORDON having been duly
~~summoned~~ (notified by Order of Publication) to appear to the Bill of Complaint, and having failed to appear
thereto, according to the exigency of the writ (said Order)

It is thereupon this *5th* day of FEBRUARY in the year nineteen
hundred and thirty-FIVE by the Circuit Court of Baltimore City, ADJUDGED, ORDERED and
DECREED, that the complainant is entitled to relief in the premises, and that the Bill of Complaint be and
is hereby taken pro confesso against the defendant FRAN J. GORDON

But because it doth not certainly appear to what relief the plaintiff is entitled, it is further ADJUDGED and
ORDERED, that one of the Examiners of this Court, take testimony to support the allegations of the Bill.

✓ *Joseph N. Helman*

IN THE
CIRCUIT COURT
FOR
BALTIMORE CITY

B 730
1935

ARDIS STEELE GORDON

VS

FRANK J. GORDON

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

B 39816

Mr. Clerk:

(2)

Please file etc.

Thurgood Marshall.
Attorney for Plaintiff.

THURGOOD MARSHALL
ATTORNEY AT LAW
604 PHOENIX BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

FILED

21 Dec, 1934

ARDIS STEELE GORDON

*

IN THE

vs

*

CIRCUIT COURT FOR

*

BALTIMORE CITY

FRANK J. GORDON

*

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this suit is to procure a divorce a vinculo matrimonii by the plaintiff, Ardis S. Gordon, from the defendant, Frank J. Gordon.

The Bill recites the marriage on June 4, 1931 in Galipolis, Ohio by a Justice of the Peace; although the conduct of the plaintiff towards the defendant has always been affectionate and above reproach, the defendant without just cause or provocation abandoned and deserted the plaintiff about October 15, 1931; said abandonment and desertion has been continuous and uninterrupted for more than three years, was deliberate act of the defendant: there is no hope of reconciliation; there are no children; plaintiff is a resident of Baltimore City and has been a resident of Maryland more than two years last past; defendant is a non-resident and when last heard of was in Alabama.

It is thereupon ordered this 21st day of December, 1934, by the Circuit Court of Baltimore City that the plaintiff, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some daily newspaper published in this City, once a week for four successive weeks on or before the 21st day of January 1935, give notice to said absent defendant of the object and substance of this bill and naming him to be and appear in this Court, in person or by solicitor on or before the 5th day of February, 1935 to show cause if any he may have why a decree should not be passed as prayed.

R. M. McCreary

True Copy _____ Test.

IN THE
CIRCUIT COURT
FOR
BALTIMORE CITY

B 730
1934

ARDIS STEELE GORDON

VS

FRANK J. GORDON

B 39816
(1)

BILL OF COMPLAINT

Mr. Clerk:

Please file etc.

Thurgood Marshall
Attorney for Plaintiff.

THURGOOD MARSHALL
ATTORNEY AT LAW
604 PHOENIX BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MD.

FILED

21 Dec 1934

ARDIS STEELE GORDON

*

IN THE

*

vs

CIRCUIT COURT FOR

*

FRANK J. GORDON

*

BALTIMORE CITY

J. Morgan
Attorney for Plaintiff.

To the Honorable, the Judge of said Court:

The bill of complaint of your oratrix respectfully represents unto your Honor as follows:

1. That your oratrix, Ardis Steele Gordon, was married to the defendant, Frank J. Gordon on the fourth day of June, 1931, in Galipolis Ohio by a Justice of the Peace.
2. That your oratrix resides in Baltimore City and has been a resident of the State of Maryland for more than two years last past.
3. That the conduct of your oratrix towards her husband has always been kind, affectionate and above reproach.
4. That on or about the fifteenth day of October, 1931, the defendant without just cause or provocation deserted and abandoned your oratrix; that said abandonment has continued uninterruptedly since that date, was the defendant's own deliberate and final act, and is beyond any reasonable hope or expectation of a reconciliation.
5. That there are no children as a result of this marriage.
6. That the defendant is not a resident of the State of Maryland and his whereabouts are unknown. When last heard of he was in the State of Alabama.

WHEREFORE , your oratrix prays:

1. That your oratrix, Ardis Steele Gordon, may be divorced a vinculo matrimonii from the defendant, Frank J. Gordon.
2. That your oratrix may be permitted to resume her maiden name, Ardis Steele.
3. That your oratrix may have such other and further relief as the nature of her cause may require.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR, to grant unto your oratrix the order of publication, giving notice to the absent defendant, Frank J. Gordon, of the object and substance of this Bill of Complaint naming him to be and appear in this court at some certain day to be named herein, to answer the premises and abide by and perform such decree

as may be passed herein.

And as in duty, etc.

Hugobert Marshall.

Attorney for Plaintiff.

X

19.....

Docket No. 730
1934

Gordon

vs.

Gordon

Certificate of Publication

B 39816
(3)

THE DAILY RECORD

Filed.....8th day of Feb. 1935

THE DAILY RECORD

Thurgood Marshall, Solicitor,
604 Phoenix Building.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALTI-
MORE CITY — (B—730—1934) — Ardis
Steele Gordon vs. Frank J. Gordon.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION.

The object of this suit is to procure a
divorce a vinculo matrimonii by the plain-
tiff, Ardis S. Gordon, from the defendant,
Frank J. Gordon.

The bill recites the marriage on June 4,
1931, in Galipolis, Ohio, by a Justice of
the Peace; although the conduct of the
plaintiff towards the defendant has always
been affectionate and above reproach, the
defendant, without just cause or provoca-
tion abandoned and deserted the plaintiff
about October 15, 1931; said abandonment
and desertion has been continuous and
uninterrupted for more than three years,
was deliberate act of the defendant;
there is no hope of reconciliation; there
are no children; plaintiff is a resident of
Baltimore City and has been a resident
of Maryland more than two years last
past; defendant is a non-resident and
when last heard of was in Alabama.

It is thereupon, ordered this 21st day of
December, 1934, by the Circuit Court of
Baltimore City, that the plaintiff, by caus-
ing a copy of this order to be inserted in
some daily newspaper published in this
City, once a week for four successive weeks,
on or before the 21st day of January, 1935,
give notice to said absent defendant of the
object and substance of this bill and nam-
ing him to be and appear in this Court, in
person or by solicitor, on or before the
5th day of February, 1935, to show cause,
if any he may have, why a decree should
not be passed as prayed.

ROWLAND K. ADAMS.

True Copy—Test:

CHAS. R. WHITEFORD,
Clerk.

d22,29,ja5,12

Baltimore, *Jan. 12th*, 19*35*

We hereby certify that the annexed advertise-
ment of Order *Publication* Circuit Court

of Baltimore City, Case of

Ardis Steele Gordon
vs. *Frank J. Gordon*

was published in THE DAILY RECORD, a daily news-
paper published in the City of Baltimore, once in each of

four successive weeks before the
21st day of *January*, 19*35*

First insertion *December 22nd*, 19*34*

THE DAILY RECORD

Per *E. S. Watkins*

Publication
THE DAILY RECORD
1935

let. let. B $\frac{730}{1934}$

Ardis Steele Gordon

^{vs}
Frank J. Gordon

Plaintiff's Exhibit,

Examiner No. 1

B39816

(6)

Filed with the Examiner

the 23 day of Feby 1935

George Arnold Frick
Examiner

Feb 18 March 1935



that Franklin James Gordon
 of Gallipolis Ohio
 and Ardis Clarendon Steele
 of Denver Colorado

Were by me united in

Holy Matrimony

according to the Ordinance of God and the
 Laws of the State of Ohio
 at Gallipolis on the 4th
 day of June in the year of OUR LORD,
 One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty one

*What therefore God
 hath joined together
 let not man put asunder.*

Paul Sullivan
 Justice of the Peace.

Witnesses } J. Brown
 Mattie Gordon

Our
Marriage
Bond

P1