

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALTIMORE CITY

*B 72  
1928*

IDA SPRUELL

VS.

HENRY SPRUELL  
                    

BILL FOR DIVORCE

*B 32732*

Mr. Clerk:

*4727*

Please file.

*Davis & Evans*

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

DAVIS & EVANS  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

*FD 21 Feb 1928*

IDA SPRUELL

:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

VS.

:

OF

HENRY SPRUELL

:

BALTIMORE CITY

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TO THE HONORABLE, THE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

Your Oratrix complaining respectfully represents:

- (1) That she was married to her husband, Henry Spruell on the 13th day of April, 1919 and with whom she resided until the 3rd day of January, 1923 when the defendant deserted the plaintiff.
- (2) That though the conduct of your Oratrix toward the said defendant has always been kind, affectionate and above reproach, he has, without any just cause or reason, abandoned and deserted her and has declared his intention to live with her no longer and said abandonment has continued uninterruptedly for more than three years and is deliberate and final and the separation of the parties is beyond any reasonable hope of reconciliation.
- (3) That your Oratrix has not lived or co-habited with the said defendant since said desertion.
- (4) That there are no children born as result of said marriage.
- (5) That your Oratrix is a citizen of the State of Maryland, having resided in Baltimore City for more than three years prior to the filing of this Bill of Complaint but that the defendant is a non-resident of the State of Maryland and when last heard of was in the State of New Jersey.

TO THE END, THEREFORE, YOUR ORATRIX PRAYS :

(a) That she may be divorced a vinculo matrimonii from the said Henry Spruell.

(b) That she may resume her maiden name "CLANTON".

(c) That she may have such other and further relief as her case may require.

May it please your Honor to grant unto your Oratrix the Order of Publication directed against the said Henry Spruell, commanding and requiring him to be and appear in this Court on some day certain to be named therein to answer the premises and abide by and perform such decree or order as may be passed therein.

AND as in duty bound, etc.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

DAVIS & EVANS, SOLICITORS  
215 ST. PAUL PLACE,  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALTIMORE CITY,  
IDA SPRUELL VS. HENRY SPRUELL  
ORDER OF PUBLICATION

The object of this bill is to procure a divorce a vinculo matrimonii by the plaintiff, Ida Spruell from the defendant, Henry Spruell.

The bill recites that the parties were married on the 13th day of April, 1919 and lived together until the 3rd day of January, 1923 when the defendant deserted the plaintiff. That though the conduct of the plaintiff toward the said defendant has always been kind, affectionate and above reproach, he has, without any just cause or reason, abandoned and deserted her and has declared his intention to live with her no longer and said abandonment has continued uninterruptedly for more than three years and is deliberate and final and the separation of the parties is beyond any reasonable hope of reconciliation. That the plaintiff has not lived or co-habited with the said defendant since said desertion. That there are no children born as result of said marriage. That the plaintiff is a citizen of the State of Maryland but that the defendant is a non-resident and when last heard of was in New Jersey.

It is thereupon ordered by the Circuit Court of Baltimore City this 21 day of *February* 1928, that the plaintiff by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some daily newspaper published in Baltimore City once a week for four successive weeks before the 24 day of *March* 1928, give notice to the absent defendant of the object and substance of this Bill, warning him to be and appear in this Court in person or by Solicitor on or before the 9 day of *April* 1928, to show cause, if any he may have, why a decree should not be passed as prayed.

*Eugene D. Dune*

192.....

Docket No.....

72

1928

*James Spruell*

vs.

*Henry Spruell*

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Certificate of Publication

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B 32732  
(4)(3)

THE DAILY RECORD

Filed.....*17* day of *Dec* 1928

# THE DAILY RECORD

Baltimore, *March 14th*, 1928.

Davis & Evans, Solicitors,  
215 St. Paul Place.  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALTI-  
MORE CITY—(B-72-1928)—Ida Spruell  
vs. Henry Spruell.

## ORDER OF PUBLICATION.

The object of this bill is to procure a divorce a vinculo matrimonii by the plaintiff, Ida Spruell, from the defendant, Henry Spruell.

The bill recites that the parties were married on the 13th day of April, 1919, and lived together until the 3rd day of January, 1923, when the defendant deserted the plaintiff. That though the conduct of the plaintiff toward the said defendant has always been kind, affectionate and above reproach, he has, without any just cause or reason, abandoned and deserted her and has declared his intention to live with her no longer and said abandonment has continued uninterruptedly for more than three years and is deliberate and final and the separation of the parties is beyond any reasonable hope of reconciliation. That the plaintiff has not lived or cohabited with the said defendant since said desertion. That there are no children born as result of said marriage. That the plaintiff is a citizen of the State of Maryland, but that the defendant is a non-resident and when last heard of was in New Jersey.

It is thereupon ordered, by the Circuit Court of Baltimore City, this 21st day of February, 1928, that the plaintiff, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some daily newspaper published in Baltimore City once a week for four successive weeks before the 24th day of March, 1928, give notice to the absent defendant of the object and substance of this bill, warning him to be and appear in this Court, in person or by solicitor, on or before the 9th day of April, 1928, to show cause, if any he may have, why a decree should not be passed as prayed.

EUGENE O'DUNNE.

True Copy—Test:

CHAS. R. WHITEFORD,  
Clerk.

f22,29,ma7,14

We hereby certify that the annexed advertisement of Order *Publication* Circuit Court  
of Baltimore City, Case of \_\_\_\_\_

*Ida Spruell*  
vs. *Henry Spruell*

was published in THE DAILY RECORD, a daily newspaper published in the City of Baltimore, once in each of

*four* successive weeks before the  
*24th* day of *March*, 1928.

First insertion *February 22nd*, 1928.

THE DAILY RECORD

Per *C. Watkins*

7.2

1072

Ct. Ct.

1928

Docket

Ida Spruell

vs.

Henry Spruell

Decree Pro Confesso

Sapp

32732

B No. 33 (4)

Filed 18 Dec 1928

Ida Spruell

vs.

Henry Spruell

IN THE  
CIRCUIT COURT  
OF  
BALTIMORE CITY

Term, 192

The Defendant 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 17 day of December in the year nineteen hundred and twenty eight 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. 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.

Ux pro fine as of Sept 10, 1928

Henry D. Spruell



Doc. 68 B 72  
1928

**In the Circuit Court,**  
OF BALTIMORE CITY

**DEPOSITIONS**

*John Spruell*  
vs.  
*Henry Spruell*

No. 37732 B

**PLAINTIFF'S COSTS**

Examiners ..... \$ .....  
Copies .....  
Sheriff .....  
Stenographer .....  
\$           

**DEFENDANT'S COSTS**

Examiners ..... \$ .....  
Copies .....  
Sheriff .....  
Stenographer .....  
\$           

*gd 18 Feb 1929*

ida spruell

vs.

HENRY SPRUELL

In the Circuit Court

OF BALTIMORE CITY.

A Decree Pro Confesso having been passed in the above cause,

and notice having been given me by the Solicitor for the plaintiff  
of a desire to take testimony in the same, I, A. de RUSSY SAPPINGTON, 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  
eighteenth (nunc pro tunc) December 19<sup>28</sup>, met on  
the tenth day of September in the year nineteen  
hundred and twenty-eight at my office, in the city of Baltimore, in the State  
of Maryland, and assigned the tenth day of September  
in the same year at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon 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 depositions, that  
is to say:—

:

IDA SPRUELL                   :    In the Circuit Court of

VS.                            :

HENRY SPRUELL               :            Baltimore City.

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Testimony taken before me, A. deRussy Sappington,  
 Examiner, in my offices in the Title Building, Baltimore,  
 on September 10th, 1928, at 2:30 P. M.

Mr. George W. Evans appeared for plaintiff.

- - -

Thereupon---

IDA SPRUELL,

the plaintiff, of lawful age, produced on her own behalf,  
 being duly sworn, testified as follows:

By the Examiner:

Q State your name, residence and occupation?

A Ida Spruell, 3307 Vera Street, Baltimore,  
 domestic.

Q Do you know the parties to this suit?

A Yes, sir, I am the plaintiff and my husband is  
 the defendant.

By Mr. Evans:

Q When, where and by whom were you married?

A Down in Fairfield, on April 13th, 1919, by a Minister of the Gospel.

Q And you lived with your husband until when?

A Until January 3rd, 1923.

Q Which one of you left the other?

A He left me.

Q Did you give him any cause or reason to leave?

A None at all.

Q Were you always a kind, faithful and affectionate wife to him?

A Yes, sir.

Q How did he treat you?

A He used to go out and stay all hours of the night and stayed out all night and was running with other women.

Q How long did that go on?

A That went on for three or four months before he left.

Q And finally what did he do?

A He just packed up and left altogether.

Q How long have you been a resident of Baltimore, Maryland?

A I have been here now for ten years.

Q Were any children born of the marriage?

A No, sir.

Q Is your husband a resident of Maryland?

A No, sir.

Q Where was he when you last heard of him?

A In Caleret, New Jersey.

Q Have you ever lived or cohabited with your husband since he left you on January 3rd, 1923?

A No, sir.

Q Has his abandonment of you continued uninterruptedly from January 3rd, 1923, down to the present time?

A Yes.

Q Do you consider it deliberate and final and beyond any hope of reconciliation?

A Yes, sir.

Q Do you wish to resume your maiden name?

A Yes, sir, Ida Mitchell.

GENERAL QUESTION

Do you know or can you state any other matter or thing that may be to the benefit or advantage of 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.

A. -----

*No*  
*Clida Spruell*

Thereupon---

ANNIE BRUNT,

a witness, of lawful age, produced on behalf of the plaintiff, being duly sworn, testified as follows:

By the Examiner:

Q State your name, residence and occupation?

A Annie Brunt, 3301 Tate Street, Baltimore, housework.

Q Do you know the parties to this suit?

A Yes, sir.

By Mr. Evans:

Q Do you know they were married and lived together as husband and wife and were known and recognized in the community where they lived as husband and wife?

A Yes, sir.

Q How long has Mrs. Spruell lived in Baltimore, Maryland?

A Ten years.

Q Is her husband a resident of Maryland?

A No, sir.

Q Where was he living when you last heard of him?

A In Caleret, New Jersey.

Q Did they have any children?

A No, sir.

Q Are they living together now?

A No, sir.

Q Which one of them left the other?

A He left her.

Q When did he leave her?

A In early January, 1923.

Q Did she give him any cause or reason to leave?

A No, sir.

Q Was she always a kind, faithful and affectionate wife?

A Yes, sir.

Q Has her conduct been above reproach?

A Yes, sir.

Q How did he treat her?

A Not so good.

Q What do you know of his affairs with other women?

A I know he run around with women and I have seen him on the street with women.

Q Has Mrs. Spruell ever lived or cohabited with her husband since he left her in January, 1923?

A No, sir.

Q Has his abandonment of her continued uninterruptedly for more than three years prior to the filing of this Bill on February 21st, 1928?

A Yes, sir.



Q Do you consider it deliberate and final and beyond  $\times$   
any hope of reconciliation?

A Yes, sir.

- - - - -

GENERAL QUESTION

Do you know or can you state any other matter or thing that may be to the benefit or advantage of 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.

A. *No*

*Annie Braunt*

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..... eighteenth..... day of February..... in the year of Our Lord nineteen hundred and..... twenty-nine..... at the City of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland.

A. de Russy Sappington (SEAL).  
Examiner.

There are..... no..... Exhibits with these depositions, to wit:  
Plaintiff's..... Exhibit.....

Defendant's..... Exhibit.....

A. de Russy Sappington  
Examiner.

I, A. de RUSSY SAPPINGTON, 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.....

A. de Russy Sappington  
Examiner.

Circuit Court

B 72

192 8

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

Ida Spuell

vs.

Henry Spuell

Order of Reference  
and Report

Lepous.

B No. 32732  
(6)

Order Filed 18 day of Feb 1929

Report Filed 12 day of April 1929

Ida Spruell

vs.

Henry Spruell

IN THE  
Circuit Court

OF  
BALTIMORE CITY

January Term, 1929

This case being submitted, without argument, it is ordered by the Court, this 18th day of February, 1929, that the same be and it is hereby referred to Wm P Lyons, Esq., Auditor and Master, to report the pleadings and the facts, and his opinion thereon.

*Wm P Lyons*

**Report of Auditor and Master**

Bill for divorce a vinculo matrimonii filed by the wife against her husband on the ground of abandonment. Code Art. 16; Sec. 37-42.

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

Plaintiff's residence in Baltimore City for more than two years prior to the filing of the bill proved.

The marriage proved.

Abandonment uninterruptedly for three years, its finality and the irreconcilability of the parties proved.

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

Case ready for decree.

*William P. Lyons*

Auditor and Master.

March 1, 1929.

1  
CIRCUIT COURT

B -72  
1928 No. Docket

IDA SPRUELL

VS.

HENRY SPRUELL

Recorded

Vol 123 1089

**Decree of Divorce**

B No. 32732

177

Feb. 18" May 1929

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

*William P. Lyons*  
Auditor and Master.

IN THE

**Circuit Court**

OF

BALTIMORE CITY

IDA SPRUELL

VS.

HENRY SPRUELL

Term, 192

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

It is thereupon, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, A. D. 1929,  
by the Circuit Court of Baltimore City, Adjudged, Ordered and Decreed, that the said - - - - -  
IDA SPRUELL, - - - - -

the above named Complainant be and She is hereby DIVORCED A VINCULO MATRIMONII from the  
Defendant, HENRY SPRUELL.

AND it is further ordered that the name of the Complainant, IDA  
SPRUELL, be and it is hereby changed to IDA MITCHELL.

And it is further Ordered, That the said Complainant, IDA SPRUELL, - - - - -  
pay the cost of this proceeding.

*Subscribed*