

State, render a marriage null and void *ab initio*; thirdly, for adultery; fourthly, when the court shall be satisfied by competent testimony that the party complained against has abandoned the party complaining, and that such abandonment has continued uninterruptedly for at least three years, and is deliberate and final, and the separation of the parties beyond any reasonable expectation of reconciliation; fifthly, when the woman before marriage has been guilty of illicit carnal intercourse with another man, the same being unknown to the husband at the time of the marriage, and when such carnal connection shall be proved to the satisfaction of the court.

Fornhill *v.* Murray, 1 Bl. 499. Campbell's Case, 2 Bl. 235. Helms *v.* Francis, 2 Bl. 564. Brown *v.* Brown, 2 Md. Ch. 324. Tayman *v.* Tayman, 2 Md. Ch. 400. Brown *v.* Brown, 5 Gill, 252. Wright *v.* Wright's Lessee, 2 Md. 455. Feigley *v.* Feigley, 7 Md. 560. Schindel *v.* Schindel, 12 Md. 108. Levering *v.* Levering, 16 Md. 213. Lynch *v.* Lynch, 33 Md. 328. J. G. *v.* H. G., 33 Md. 401. Hoshall *v.* Hoshall, 51 Md. 72. Kremelberg *v.* Kremelberg, 52 Md. 553. Le Brun *v.* Le Brun, 55 Md. 460.

P. G. L., (1860,) art. 16, sec. 26. 1841, ch. 282, sec. 3. 1873, ch. 272.

**37.** Divorces *a mensa et thoro* may be decreed for the following causes, to wit: first, cruelty of treatment; secondly, excessively vicious conduct; thirdly, abandonment and desertion; and the court may decree such divorces forever, or for a limited time; and in all cases where divorce *a mensa et thoro* is decreed, it may be revoked at any time thereafter by the court granting the same, upon the joint application of the parties to be discharged from the operation of the decree; and the court may decree a divorce *a mensa et thoro* in cases where a divorce *a vinculo matrimonii* is prayed, if the causes proved be sufficient to entitle the party to the same; and in all cases where a divorce is decreed, the court passing the same shall have full power to award to the wife such property or estate as she had when married, or the value of the same, or of such part thereof as may have been sold or converted by the husband, having regard to the circumstances of the husband at the time of the divorce, or such part of any such property as the court may deem reasonable; and shall also have power to order and direct who shall have the guardianship and custody of the children, and be charged with their support and maintenance, and may at