

1905-12

Southampton County Chancery - Lankford, Archie vs Lankford, Louretta (Griffin)

Divorce

To the Honorable Robert R. Prentiss, Judge of the Circuit Court of Southampton County:

Complaining, your orator, Archie Lankford, sheweth unto the Court, that he is a citizen of Southampton County, Virginia, and that on the 19th. day of December 1894, he was married to Louretta Griffin, as will appear from a copy of the marriage license hereto annexed, marked Exhibit "A" and prayed to be read as a part of this bill, and that ever since such a marriage he has been faithful, dutiful and constant in his attentions to the said Louretta Griffin, providing her with every comfort consistent with his means, and notwithstanding his fidelity, your orator has suffered the greatest humiliation by reason of the inconstancy and infidelity on the part of his said wife the said Louretta ^{Southern} Griffin. Your orator charges the said Louretta ^{Southern} Griffin, his wife, with adultery, so open and notorious that her conduct has been a topic of conversation, by reason of her intimacy with Jim Butts and others, and so much enamored has she become of others that she has deserted and quit the home and bed of your orator and taken her domicile in another State.

In tender consideration whereof, and forasmuch as your orator is remediless save in a court of equity, where such matters are alone cognizable, he prays that the said Louretta Griffin Lankford, may be made a party defendant to this suit, that she may be required to answer the ^{bill} ~~same~~, but answer on oath is hereby waived, that proper process may issue, that a divorce a vinculo matrimonii may be granted your orator, and that such other further and general relief may be given your orator as the nature of his case may require or to equity shall seem meet. And your orator will ever pray &c

Archie Lankford p.q.

Archie Lankford

Southampton County, to wit: I, R. B. Turner, a Notary Public in and for said County, State of Virginia, do certify that Archie Lankford this day appeared before me and made oath that the facts stated in the above bill are true, and that he swore to and subscribed to the same before me in my County aforesaid.

Given under my hand this 22d. day of September 1905.

R. B. Turner
Notary Public

My commission expires on the 29 day of April 1906.

Frankford

- 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ Depositions

Frankford

The depositions of M. W. Johnson, and others, taken before me, E. Frank Story, a commissioner in chancery for the circuit court of Southampton County, Virginia, on the 14th day of October, 1905, between the hours of 9 A. M. and 6 P. M., at R. E. L. Watkins' office in the town of Franklin, Virginia, to be read as evidence on behalf of Archie L. Lankford in a certain suit in equity depending in the Circuit Court of Southampton County, Virginia, wherein Louretta Lankford is defendant and Archie L. Lankford is plaintiff.

PRESENT:

R. E. L. Watkins for the plaintiff.

Q.1. State your name, age, occupation and residence?

Answer.1. H.W. Johnson, age 44, farmer, Southampton County, Va.

Q.2. Do you know the parties to this suit?

Ans.2. Yes, very well.

Q.3. State please, whether or not you know anything to the detriment of the moral character of Louretta Lankford, the defendant named in this suit?

Ans.3. The only thing that I know is the common talk in the community wherein she lived. It is the general impression in our community that she was nothing more than a common prostitute. The impression she made upon my mind was, that she appeared to be looking for men. There was certainly nothing decent in her general conduct and actions around the neighborhood. She used to pass over my field visiting a family of colored people whose reputation was not of the best and her frequenting this place made the impression upon my mind that she was not conducting herself properly.

Q.4. What kind of treatment did she receive at the hands of her husband?

Ans.4. Her husband had a good farm and provided well and my impression was that he treated her well, better than the average colored person.

And further this deponent saith not.

H. W. Johnson
his mark

Q.1. State your name, age, occupation and residence?

Answer L.S.A. Hargrave, age 35, farmer, Southampton County, Va.

Do you know the parties to this suit?

Ans.2. Yes, Very well.

Q.3. State, please, what you know, if anything, about the moral character and conduct of Louretta Lankford?

Ans.3. She was generally regarded in the community where she lived as a common prostitute, and I have heard her talking in the presence of men, and frequently her conversation was of a very obscene and vulgar character. She conducted her

self in a very loose and ordinary manner.

Q.4. Do you know what kind of treatment she received at the hands of her husband?

Ans.4. I believe that she was treated good at home. He has a little farm and is a good provider, and she always appeared to be well and comfortably dressed. I think she was better provided for than the average colored person in my community.

And further this deponent saith not.

S. A. Hargrave
name

State your name, age, occupation and residence?

Ans.1. G.Q.Eley, age 30, farmer, Southampton County, Va.

Q.2. Do you know the parties to this suit?

Answer. Q. Yes, very well.

Q.3. Do you know anything of the conduct and moral character of Louretta Lankford?

Ans.3. Yes, I know her to be common prostitute, and have laid up with her myself.

In the community where she lived she was regarded by those who knew her as
"Rip"
a perfect and she allowed most any man to use her for immoral purposes.

Q.4. State, please, what kind of treatment she received at the hands of her husband? did

Very kind. He provided for her and kept comfortably and nicely clothed. He his

part by her. She fared better than the average colored person in our community.

Q.5. Does she live with her husband now?

Ans.5. No, she has not lived with him for nearly two years.

And further this deponent saith not.

G. Q. Eley

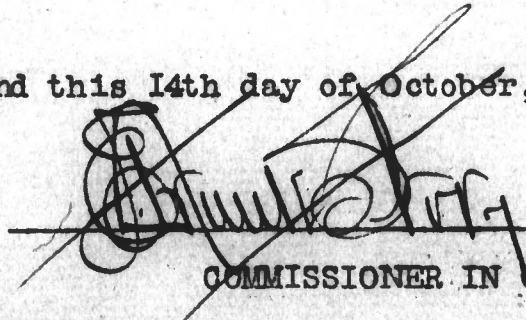
1/2 Do not know anything of the conduct and money matters of defendant
witnesses. As a result of
Do not know the parties to this suit
What is the date of the deposition of the
State of Virginia, the deposition and the

STATE OF VIRGINIA, {
Southampton County, { to-wit:

I, E. Frank Story, a commissioner in chancery for the circuit court of Southampton County, Virginia, do hereby certify that the foregoing depositions of H. W. Johnson, S. A. Hargrave and G. Q. Eley, were taken, sworn to and subscribed before me, at the time and place, and for the purposes stated in the caption hereto annexed.

Given under my hand this 14th day of October, 1905.

Com'r's fee:
\$5.00.


COMMISSIONER IN CHANCERY.

Archib. Lowford 1905

Os } Secre

Louisa Lowford

Enter this 3rd
October 1905.

Robert P. Muntz

Entered in
B. O. B. p. 2001

Archie Sanford
vs
Louisa Sanford } Decree

This cause which has been regularly matured by order of publication, duly issued, published and posted, according to law, came on this day to be heard on the plaintiff's bill and exhibits and depositions of witnesses and was argued by counsel. On consideration whereof, the Court being of the opinion that adultery of the defendant has been proved to the satisfaction of the Court, do hereby order and decree that the marriage heretofore had and solemnized between the plaintiff Archie Sanford and the Defendant Louisa Sanford, formerly Louisa Griffin, shall be void and the same is hereby dissolved. And that the said Archie Sanford be forever divorced from the said Louisa Griffin. And there being nothing further to be done in the cause, it is ordered that the same be removed from the docket.

Lanckford

or

} Stat: Rules

Lanckford

Archie L. Landford - } Plff
Louretta Landford. } In Chy

1905. Augt. 30. Process iss^d to 1st Sept Rules.

" " " Affidavit of non residence filed.

" " " Order Publication issued.

" " 31. " " Published.

" 1st Sept: Rules: Process set "not found".

" 1 " " Bill not filed.

" 1 " " Ord. Pub: posted at Court house door.

" 2 " " Bill not filed.

" 1 Oct " " " "

" Oct: 4 " Bill filed

" " " Order Pub: Complete.

+ Cause set for hearing.

IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE
Circuit Court of the County of South-
ampton, on the 30th day of August, 1905.
Archie L. Lankford,.....Plaintiff
vs.
Louretta Lankford,.....Defendant

IN CHANCERY.

The object of this suit is to obtain a di-
vorce a vinculo matrimonii. And affa-
vit having been made that the defendant,
Louretta Lankford, is not a resident of
the State of Virginia, it is ordered that she
appear here within fifteen days after due
publication hereof and do what may be
necessary to protect her interest in this
suit. And it is further ordered that a copy
hereof be published once a week for four
successive weeks in the Southampton
Democrat, and that a copy be posted at
the front door of the courthouse of this
county on the first Monday in September,
1905.

Teste: B. F. McLEMORE, C. C.

A Copy—Teste:

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, \$1.00 A YEAR

FRANKLIN, VA., *Oct 2* 190*5*

Natkins

AMPTON DEMOCRAT, DR.

W. H. STROUD, Publisher.

DONE WITH NEATNESS AND DISPATCH.

NTS. VISITING CARDS. &C., A SPECIALTY. RUBBER STAMPS AND SEAL PRESSES.

Aug 31 *is publishing attached order*
pub. in suit of Archie L.
Lankford vs. Louretta Lank-
ford 4/1

5/5

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE. \$1.00 A YEAR

FRANKLIN, VA., *Oct 2/* 190*5*

Mr. R. E. L. Watkins

TO SOUTHAMPTON DEMOCRAT, DR.

W. H. STROUD, Publisher.

FINE JOB PRINTING DONE WITH NEATNESS AND DISPATCH.

ENGRAVED WEDDING CARDS. ANNOUNCEMENTS. VISITING CARDS, &c.. A SPECIALTY. RUBBER STAMPS AND SEAL PRESSES.

Aug 31 1905
2 publishing attached order
pub. in issue of Archie L.
Laurelford vs. Laurence La-
urelford H T

5.15

Subscription Price, \$1.00 a Year.

Published Every Thursday.

Fine Job Printing Department.

SOUTHAMPTON DEMOCRAT.

W. H. STROUD, Publisher.

CIRCULATES THROUGHOUT EASTERN VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA.

IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE
Circuit Court of the County of South-
ampton, on the 30th day of August, 1903.
Archie L. Lankford.....Plaintiff
vs.

Leuretta Lankford.....Defendant

IN CHANCERY.

The object of this suit is to obtain a di-
vorce, a vinculo matrimonii. And affida-
vit having been made that the defendant,
Leuretta Lankford, is not a resident of
the State of Virginia, it is ordered that she
appear here within fifteen days after due
publication hereof and do what may be
necessary to protect her interest in this
suit. And it is further ordered that a copy
hereof be published once a week for four
successive weeks in the Southampton
Democrat, and that a copy be posted at
the front door of the courthouse of this
county on the first Monday in September,
1903.

Teste: B. F. McLEMORE, C. C.
A Copy—Teste:

B. F. McLemore, C. C.
R. L. WATKINS, p. q, au81-4t

Franklin, Va. *Oct 24* 190 *5-*

*This is to certify that the attached
copy of order of publication was
published in the Southampton
Democrat four (4) successive
weeks.*

*W H Stroud
Ed & Pub*

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Virginia, Southampton County 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,

Archer Lankford
and Lucretia T. L. Griffin

Given under my hand, as Clerk of the County Court
of Southampton this 17th day of Dec^r 1894
B. F. McQuinn Clerk.

CERTIFICATE TO OBTAIN A MARRIAGE LICENSE,
TO BE ANNEXED TO THE LICENSE, REQUIRED BY SECTION 2229 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA, AS AMENDED BY ACT OF FEBRUARY 3, 1900.

Time of Marriage, Dec 27-1894	Place of Husband's Birth, Isle of Wight Co
Place of Marriage, Southampton Co	Place of Wife's Birth, Southampton Co
Full Names of Parties Married, Archer Lankford Lucretia T. L. Griffin	Place of Husband's Residence, "
Color, Black	Place of Wife's Residence, "
Age of Husband, 29 years	Names of Husband's Parents, Archer & Kate Lankford
Age of Wife, 17 "	Names of Wife's Parents, Sarah Meadows
Condition of Husband (widowed or single or divorced), widowed	Occupation of Husband, Farmer
Condition of Wife (widowed or single or divorced), single	

Given under my hand this 17th day of Dec^r 1894
B. F. McQuinn Clerk.

Certificate of Time and Place of Marriage.

I, _____, a _____ of the _____
Church, or religious order of that name, do certify that on the 19th day of
Dec - 1894, at Residence of bride's father, under authority of the above
License, I united in Marriage the persons named and described therein.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____ 19____
P. H. Diggs

The Minister celebrating a marriage is required, within two months thereafter, to return the License to the Office of the Clerk who issued the same, with an endorsement thereon of the FACT of such marriage, and of the TIME and PLACE of celebrating the same.

Courtland, Va., 1/14 1911

Bellamy et al.

vs

PLTFF.

In 1

Hodges, et al.

DFT.

RECEIVED this day the papers constituting the record in above-mentioned case, to be returned in ten days.

E. L. Bean

Courtland, Va.,

June 12 1911

Keelam H. W.  W. C. G.

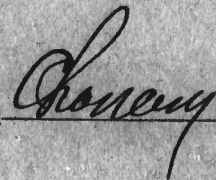
PLTFF.

vs

Hodges et al.

DFT.

In



RECEIVED this day the papers constituting the record in above-mentioned case, to be returned in ten days.



THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA.

TO THE SHERIFF OF SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY, GREETING:

WE COMMAND YOU TO SUMMON *Corretta Cass k for d*.....

to appear at the Clerk's Office of our Circuit Court of Southampton County, at the Rules
to be holden for the said Court on the*1st*.....Monday in *Sept*.....*1905*.....
~~next~~, to answer a Bill in Chancery exhibited against *her*.....in our said
Court by *Archie L. Cass k for d*.....

And this *she*.....shall in nowise omit under penalty of law. And have then there this
writ.

Witness, B. F. McLEMORE, Clerk of our said Court, at the Courthouse, this
30".....day of *August*....., 190*5*....., in the *130*".....year of the Commonwealth.

Teste:

B. F. McLeMORE....., C. C.

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Why.

Can k furd

1905 1st, Sept Cules

Not found

Sept 1, 1905

to a Bee Outh

to J. L. Gullett

Shel

Conretta Carkeford

Conretta Carkeford

Sept. 1910

Conretta Carkeford

24

August

Q. F. M. K. K. K.

brief of court

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA.

TO THE SHERIFF OF SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY, GREETING:
WE COMMAND YOU TO SUMMON *Nourtha Lankford*

.....
.....
.....
to appear at the Clerk's Office of our Circuit Court of Southampton County, at the Rules
to be holden for the said Court on the *1st* Monday in *Sept. 1915*
~~next~~, to answer a Bill in Chancery exhibited against *her* in our said
Court by *Archie L. Lankford*

And this *she* shall in nowise omit under penalty of law. And have then there this
writ.

Witness, B. F. McLEMORE, Clerk of our said Court, at the Courthouse, this
30 day of *August*, 190*5*, in the *120* year of the Commonwealth.

Teste:

B. F. McLeMORE, c. c.

Virginia,

Southampton County, to wit: This day personally appeared before me R.E.L. Watkins,
and made oath that Louette Louford against whom Orchard L. Louford
has lately instituted a suit in equity in the Circuit of said County is not
a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Given under my hand this 30th day of August 1905.

[Signature]
Notary Public.

In the Circuit Court of the County of Southampton ~~County~~ on the 30th. day of August 1905.

Archie L. Lankford, Plaintiff,

VS

Louretta Lankford, Defendant.

In Chancery

The object of this suit is to obtain a divorce a vinculo matrimonii.

And affidavit having been made that the defendant Louretta Lankford is not a resident of the State of Virginia it is ordered that she appear here within fifteen days after due publication hereof and do what may be necessary to protect her interest in this suit. And it is further ordered that a copy hereof be published once a week for four successive weeks in the Southampton Democrat and that a copy be posted at the front door of the courthouse of this county on the first Monday in September 1905.

[Signature]

B. F. McLenore Clerk