

1881-014 Chancery Causes: John C. Bowen (Calvin Bowman) vs Henrietta Bowman

Isle of Wight County

Other surnames: Bowzer,  
Hill, Bailey, Bowser,  
Holloway, Holloman

Bowman  
11

Bowman

Complainant's  
Bill -

March Rules, 1877.

Bill filed - Sued.

Exp. & de: nisi.

" Apl. Rls. Bill taken  
for conf. & set for  
morning.

May be made a part of judgment, & the  
file the required to answer the  
same thro' by the decree of this  
honorable court of Chancery  
the said Mariae may be disol-  
ved and the said remainder be  
forever dissolved from your  
Complainant & that & such other  
further relief may be granted  
if the Merits as to the court may  
deem meet - & the Motion of the case  
may regressed, from complainant's  
bills over says -


Hayden R

asylum & has ever since her  
discharge therefrom continued  
to be of sound Mental health,  
was during said adulterous  
connection of sound Mind  
& so continues - That your  
Complainant has always been  
an affectionate & faithful  
husband to said Henrietta -  
That since said adulterous acts  
of his said wife, your complainant  
has never lived a cohabited  
with her or in any manner  
condoned said adulterous  
acts of the said Henrietta -  
That your complainant is in-  
formed & so charges that in conse-  
quence of the said adultery of the  
said Henrietta your complainant  
is entitled to a divorce from the  
bond of Matrimony with the said  
Henrietta In tender consideration  
whereof & as much as your  
Complainant is without remedy at  
law & can only be relieved by the aid  
of this Honorable Court of Chancery  
where matters of this sort are cognizable,  
To this end your complainant  
prays, that the said Henrietta Bonman

with a more serious form of insanity,  
which became so confirmed & violent  
that she was of the legal authorities  
committed as a lunatic, sent to &  
confined in the Lunatic Asylum  
at Richmond. That some five or  
six years after being sent to said  
Asylum said Henrietta the wife  
of your complainant returned  
to this county in company with  
Mrs. Bailey who she lived  
with & claimed as her husband  
& unlawfully cohabited with as  
her husband. That after remaining  
here for some time in such lascivious  
& adulterous cohabitation, the said  
Henrietta & said Bailey  
returned to Richmond & contin-  
ued the same unlawful, lascivious  
& adulterous cohabitation. That the  
Christian name of said adulterer  
is unknown to your complainant.  
That said Henrietta has within  
a few weeks returned to this  
county & now remains here  
That said Henrietta was entirely  
restored to her right mind  
while an inmate of said Lunatic

To the Honorable George Blow Judge of  
the Circuit Court of Law & Chancery for  
the County of Isle of Wight, in Chancery sitting;  
Hereby complaining sheweth to the  
Court, your complainant: Mrs C Bowman  
generally called and known as Calviri  
Bowman, died on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of February  
1868, your said complainant then Twenty  
Two years of age, was under a marriage  
licence of that date issued according  
to law lawfully <sup>by the name of</sup> married in said  
~~Calviri Bowman~~ County to Henrietta Bowzer then Twenty  
One years of age by the Reverend J Hill  
a Minister of the Gospel duly by law  
licenced to celebrate marriages, as  
will appear from a certified copy of  
said licence, with the Certificate of  
said Minister of the solemnization of  
said marriage annexed, herewith  
filed, marked A sprayed to be  
taken as a part of this bill - That some  
Time Three Months after said marriage  
the said Henrietta became insane,  
but in the fall of the same year seemed  
to be entirely restored to her right  
Mind so continued until the  
Spring or early Summer of the  
Next year, when she was again attacked


John C. Brown and

vs.  Trust to  
auss. Bill  
in chq.

Henrietta Brown

do March Rules 1874  
Hayden Prof.

Executed by allowing  
to the within named  
Henrietta Brown  
a true Copy of the within  
sums. March 3<sup>o</sup>

 J. B. Edward  
Shiff

The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To the Sheriff of Isle of Wight County, Greeting :

WE COMMAND YOU TO SUMMON

*Mauritta Brown*

to appear at the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County, at Rules to be holden for the said Court, on the first Monday in *March* next to answer *the Bill*

*in chancery of Calvin Brown*

of a plea of *1 2 2* for \$ *---* Damages \$

And have

then there this writ. Witness N. P. YOUNG, Clerk of our said Court, at the Court House, the *23<sup>d</sup>*

day of *27<sup>th</sup> February* 187*7*, in the *101<sup>st</sup>* year of the Commonwealth.

*N. P. Young*

Calvin Hornum  
w. In chief  
Nauritta Hornum

Depositions of  
Joel Holloway,  
J. Robert Boyer &  
Jas. Boyer.

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April 9<sup>th</sup> 1877.

Came to hand under  
seal and filed.

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And further this deponent, with out,  
Signed John <sup>his</sup> ~~mark~~ ~~mark~~ ~~mark~~

The foregoing depositions were taken  
sworn and subscribed before me  
at the time and place mentioned in the  
caption. Given under my hand as  
Commissioner of said this 7<sup>th</sup> day of  
April A.D. 1877

G. R. Putnam Comr

Since employed Geo. Brown

Ans

In my foot, second year, I live in  
this court, I know all the parties,  
Herrietta is my sister.

Quis

How much you may know of the mar-  
riage of these parties, and what you  
may know of Herrietta Bonner  
after the marriage.

Ans

I was not present at the marriage, but  
they lived together as man & wife until  
I saw her somewhere that they were  
married. After the marriage she lived  
with Calvin and my father, she got  
in a strange way, got so bad that  
she had to be sent to a Lunatic Asylum near  
Richmond, she returned home, became  
insane again and was sent back, she  
came home again with a man  
named Louis Bailey, so far as I could  
learn she lived together as man & wife,  
she stayed together at my father's, don't  
know how long they occupied  
the same room at my father's, both  
went away together. She was the  
right niece when she was here with  
Louis Bailey. She is now in the county  
is in the right mind, she does not  
know me, with Calvin Bonner, and  
has she lived with him since she  
stayed with Louis Bailey.

two months and went back to Richmond  
thrice herself out took up with Louis  
Bailey. They lived together twelve  
months since, I was in Richmond,  
I stayed at their house a great deal,  
they slept in the same room, they  
had but one bed in the room in another  
bed. They lived together a year more  
I left after twelve months, the next  
fall when I went back they were still  
living together. The last time I was  
in Richmond only a fortnight, they  
still occupied the same room, but  
one bed in room. During the 12  
months and also during the fort-  
night I remained in Richmond she  
was in her right mind. She is now  
in this County, came about two  
months before Christmas. So in her  
right mind now. And further this  
deponent says to wit

Signed <sup>his</sup> Joel X. Keckman  
mark

John Bonzer being duly sworn deposes  
and says as follows

Quest/ What is your age Residence and  
are you acquainted with the parties to  
this suit.

She came back just before last Christ-  
mas, during the winter season  
before she went out to work, she be-  
came unwell, would wear clothes,  
and further this autumn, autumn.

Signed James R. Bowen

Joel Holloway, being duly sworn  
deposes and says as follows

Ques 1 How long ago, residing, and whether  
you are acquainted with the parties to  
this suit?

Ans I am 39 years old, reside in this  
county. I know the parties to this suit.

Ques 2 State what you may know of the mar-  
riage of these parties and what you  
may know of Henrietta Bowman  
after the marriage.

Ans I was present at the marriage, they  
were married at Henry's Bowyer by  
Isaac Hill a colored preacher, it  
was done about 9 years ago.

Henrietta stayed with her husband,  
while before she went away, she  
became insane, and parted from  
her husband, stayed about here  
 awhile and was sent to the colored  
Insane Asylum near Richmond,  
stayed at Asylum about 15 months,  
and came home, stayed here about

was married at my father's house, by  
the Rev. Isaac D. Hill, I am a friend of  
Henrietta Brownman they were married  
about nine years since.

Ques 3

How what you may know of Henrietta  
Brownman after her marriage.

Ans

After marriage about a year or half  
she went deranged - was carried to  
the Central Lunatic Asylum near  
Richmond, afterwards she left the  
Asylum and took up with a man  
named Louis Bailey, they came to my  
father's house and remained about a  
month, I think they claimed to be man  
and wife, they lived together whilst at  
my father's. I don't know that I was at  
home during their stay more than  
one night, I was there sometime, the  
night I was there they slept in the same  
room, whilst she was at my father's  
with this man she was in her right  
mind, She returned to Richmond with  
this man, and afterwards became insane  
again, after her second attack of  
insanity she returned to the County  
with Louis Bailey, She has been  
in her right mind all the time  
since her last return to the County.

The depositions of J. Robert Bowzer  
Joel Holloman and John Bowzer  
taken pursuant to the annexed notices  
on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1877 before  
the undersigned G. B. Atkinson a  
commissioner in chancery for the  
circuit court for the county of Meigs  
Might, at the office of A. B. Hayden in  
the town of Smithfield in the county  
aforesaid between the hours of 8 a.m.  
and 6 P.M. of the day aforesaid, to be  
read as evidence on behalf of Calvin  
Bryman in a suit in chancery de-  
pending in the circuit court of the said  
county between Miss and Henrietta  
Bryman heirs, on the one hand, and  
A. B. Hayden attorney for the Plaintiffs, the  
said Robert being first sworn on  
the said depositions as follows.

Question 1<sup>st</sup> by Plaintiffs attorney.

State your age, residence, and  
whether or not you know the parties  
to this suit.

Ans. In my 26<sup>th</sup> year, Sec. of Meigs County,  
Hardy Township. I know both of  
the parties to this suit.

Ques<sup>2</sup>. State what you may know of the  
marriage of the parties.

Ans. I was present at their marriage, they

Bowman  
to  
Bowman

Notice to take  
Deposition

Executed by returning  
to the within Henietta  
Bowman a true Copy  
of the within Notice  
March 29th 1877

A B Edwards  
Shff.

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To Henrietta Bowman -

Take notice that I shall on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April — 1877, next, at  
the Office of C B Hayden ————— in Smithfield  
————— between the hours of 8 a. m. and 6 p. m. of that day, proceed  
to take the Depositions of Robert Bowzer — John Bowzer  
Joel Holliday and others, to be read as evidence in my behalf, in a certain  
Chancery Suit, depending in the Circuit Court of the County of  
County, wherein

I am ————— are plaintiffs, and you —————  
————— are defendants; and if from any cause the taking of the  
said Depositions be not commenced on that day, or if commenced be not concluded on that  
day, the taking of the same will be adjourned and continued from day to day or from  
time to time, at the same place and between the same hours, until the same shall be com-  
pleted.

Respectfully, Calvin Bowman

To the Sheriff of  
County to execute.

} for C B Hayden his  
Attorney

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Bowman

vs 3 Court Notice

Bowman

//

Executed by Reliving  
to the within and  
Ro. Bowyer John  
Bowyer & Joel  
Holloway each a  
true Copy of the  
within Summons  
March 29. 1877

L B Conrad  
Shiff

Original

The Commonwealth of Virginia  
To the Sergeant of the Corporation of Smithfield  
Greeting

You are hereby commanded to summon  
Robert Bowzer, John Bowzer & Joel Holloway  
personally to appear before the undersigned  
one of the commissioners in chancery of the  
Circuit Court of Isle of Wight county, at the office  
of L. D. Hayden in Smithfield on the 7<sup>th</sup> day  
of April 1877 next at 10 A.M. to testify & the  
truth to say on behalf of Calvin Bowman  
in a matter of controversy pending in the said  
Court between the said Calvin Bowman  
plaintiff & Henrietta Bowman defendant.  
And have then there this writ. It witness is R.  
Strinson commissioner of the said court at  
my office in said county this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March  
A.D. 1877

In Witness Whereof  
I have hereunto set my hand & seal  
of the said Court

Bowman  
vs  
Bowman

Rough Decree  
Oct - Term 1877  
To be entered

Calvin Bowman

11

Henrietta Bowman

This cause in which the Complainant's bill is taken for confessed as to the defendant, Henrietta Bowman, on whom process has been duly served, she still failing to appear, plead, answer or demur, came on this day to be heard on said <sup>exhibits filed</sup> bill, and examination of witnesses and was argued by Counsel, on Consideration whereof the Court, being of opinion that the charge of adultery against the defendant is fully proved, doth adjudge, order and decree that the marriage heretofore solemnized between Calvin Bowman, the plaintiff and Henrietta Bowman, formerly Bowser be and the same is hereby dissolved and that the said Calvin Bowman he and he is hereby forever divorced from his wife the said Henrietta Bowman, and all the right, title and interest of the said Henrietta Bowman in or to the estate, real and personal of the said Calvin Bowman shall henceforth cease and determine, and that the plaintiff recover from the defendant his costs by him expended in the prosecution of this suit. And nothing remaining to be done in this suit, it is ordered that the same be removed from the docket.

Bowman

or

Bowman

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19  
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24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31

(50)

Final Decree

Oct Term 1851

To be Entered

Geo. B. ...

Accepted by

Mr. Allen ...  
...  
...

Bowman

1

or

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Bowman

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On motion of the Plaintiff  
it is ordered that this suit be dis-  
missed at the plaintiffs costs.

C. Bowman

to.  $\frac{2}{3}$  In Chq.

Henrietta Bowman

Copy Marriage license  
& cert. filed with  
Compt. Roll.

The return of this  
license was made  
to Clerk's office on  
25<sup>th</sup> Feb'y. 1868.

Teste N. P. Young M

# MARRIAGE LICENSE



Virginia, Isle of Wight 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, Calvin P. Bonneau and Henrietta Powell

GIVEN under my hand, as Clerk of the County Court of Isle of Wight County this 13<sup>th</sup> day February 1868. N. P. Younglett, by S. D. Worrell, Jr. Clerk.

**CERTIFICATE TO OBTAIN A MARRIAGE LICENSE.**

To be Annexed to the License, required by Acts passed 15th March, 1861, and February 27th, 1866.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Time of Marriage, 13 <sup>th</sup> of February 1868                 | Condition of Wife, (widowed or single) Single |
| Place of Marriage, Isle of Wight Co. Va.                            | Place of Husband's Birth, Isle of Wight Co.   |
| Full Names of Parties Married, Calvin P. Bonneau & Henrietta Powell | Place of Wife's Birth, Tenn.                  |
| Color, _____  | Place of Husband's Residence, Tenn.           |
| Age of Husband, 22 years  | Place of Wife's Residence, Tenn.              |
| Age of Wife, 21 years   | Names of Husband's Parents, Archibald & Eliza |
| Condition of Husband, (widowed or single) Single                    | Names of Wife's Parents, Mary & Sally         |
|   | Occupation of Husband, Laborer                |

Given under my hand this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 1868. N. P. Younglett, by S. D. Worrell, Jr. Clerk.

**MINISTER'S RETURN OF MARRIAGE.**

I Certify, That on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 1868 at 8 P.M. I united in Marriage the above-named and described parties, under authority of the annexed License.

Rud Isaac Hill

The Minister celebrating a marriage, is required, within TEN days 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.

a copy Test, N. P. Younglett