

DOCKET NO. 173

NUMBER	TERM	YEAR
271	November	1960

Shelba Jean Stevens

VERSUS

Stanley Lewis Stevens

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENN'A.

NO. 271 November Term, 1960

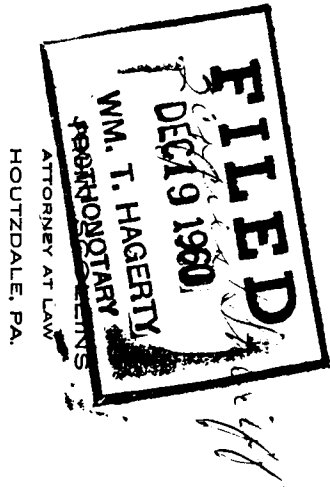
SHELBA JEAN STEVENS
Plaintiff

VS.

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS,
Defendant.

IN DIVORCE

In Re: Petition for an Order
authorizing service of the
Complaint in Divorce on a
Convict.
Order of Court.



IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS, : No. 271 November Term, 1960
Plaintiff :
Vs. : IN DIVORCE
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS, :
Defendant :

STATEMENT OF MASTER'S COSTS

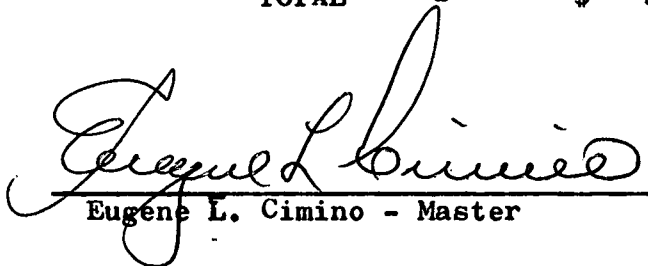
Master's Fee (Eugene L. Cimino, Esq.) - - - - - \$ 85.00

Service of Notice of Master's Hearing

Sheriff H.O. Debo of Missouri (Advanced by Master) - - - - - 3.50

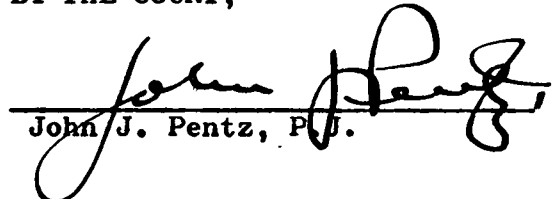
Stenographer's Fee - Anita P. Wilson, Sec'ty. - - - - - 10.00

TOTAL \$ 98.50


Eugene L. Cimino - Master

AND NOW, this 29 day of April, 1961,
the above costs are approved.

BY THE COURT,


John J. Pentz, P.J.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS, : No. 271 November Term, 1960
Plaintiff :
vs. : IN DIVORCE
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS, :
Defendant :

MASTER'S REPORT

TO THE HONORABLE JOHN J. PENTZ, PRESIDENT JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

The undersigned, the Master, appointed by your Honorable Court to take testimony in the above divorce proceedings and report thereon with a form of decree, respectfully represents:

That on the 23rd day of January, 1961, he was appointed Master in the above entitled case.

That on the 31st day of January, 1961, due notice as required by the Rules of Court was given to the Plaintiff's Counsel and on February 10, 1961, by Sheriff's Return Service upon the Defendant, of a meeting to be held on March 4, 1961, at 1:30 P.M., E.S.T., at the Offices of the Master, Eugene L. Cimino, Esq., at 138 Curtin Street, Osceola Mills, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania.

The Defendant did not appear, nor was he represented by Counsel; the Plaintiff appeared together with three (3) witnesses in her behalf, namely: Myrtle Parsons, her mother; Elmer Parsons, her father; and Mrs. Robert Thomas, her sister.

THIS IS AN UNCONTESTED CASE.

Clearfield County, ss:

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to

EUGENE L. CIMINO, ESQ., Greeting:

Know you, that in confidence of your prudence and fidelity we have appointed you, and by these presents do give unto you full power and authority, in pursuance of an order made in our County Court of Common Pleas, for the County of Clearfield, in a certain cause there depending, wherein

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS Plaintiff ,

and

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS Defendant ,

to call before you at a certain day and place by you for that purpose to be appointed, all and every person who may be named to you on the part of the parties.

as witnesses in the said cause, and then and there to examine each of the said witnesses upon their oath or solemn affirmation touching the premises and reduce their testimony to writing and report the same with form of Decree. and when you shall have done so, you are to send the name before our Judge at Clearfield, at our said Court, together with the interrogatories and this writ, and under your hand and seal.

In Testimony Whereof, we have caused the seal of our said Court to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, the Hon. John J. Pentz, President of our said Court, at Clearfield, the 23rd day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-one.

Wm. L. Hagerty Prothonotary

To the Honorable, the Judge, &c.:

The execution of this commission appears in a certain schedule hereunto annexed.

Eugene L. Cimino COMMISSIONER.

No. 271 NOVEMBER Term. 1960

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS

VERSUS

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS

COMMISSION

John Scollins Attorney.

II. DOCKET ENTRIES AND SCHEDULE

On December 19, 1960, Complaint in Divorce was filed. On December 10, 1960, Petition for an Order authorizing Service of Complaint in Divorce on a Convict was filed. On the 16th day of December, 1960, the Court having determined that the Defendant was a prisoner at the Intermediate Reformatory at Jefferson City, Missouri, on motion of John Scollins, Esq., leave was granted to serve the Complaint in Divorce on Defendant in said Institution, and the Sheriff was directed to deputize the Sheriff of Jefferson City, Cole County, Missouri, to serve the same on said Defendant in said Institution. On January 3, 1961, the Sheriff's return of Cole County, Missouri, was filed, certifying that on December 21st, 1960, Sheriff Ben S. Markway and Deputy Fred F. Miller did serve copy of the Divorce Complaint and Summons upon Mr. Stanley L. Stevens in person.

The Master was appointed on January 23, 1961. The date and place for hearing was for March 4, 1961, at 1:30 P.M., E.S.T. at the Law Office of Eugene L. Cimino, Esq., 138 Curtin Street, Osceola Mills, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania. Counsel for Plaintiff accepted notice of the Master's hearing in behalf of his client, the Plaintiff herein. Notice of Master's hearing was served upon the Defendant, personally, by Sheriff H.O. Debs and Deputy Fred F. Miller, on February 10, 1961, in the County of Cole, State of Missouri, at the Intermediate Reformatory of Missouri in that County and State.

The Defendant did not appear nor was he represented by Counsel. The Plaintiff appeared in person together with her Counsel, John Scollins, Esq. and three (3) witnesses in her behalf, namely; Mrs. Myrtle Parsons, her mother; Elmer Parsons, her father; and Mrs. Robert Thomas, her sister.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS

:
:

VS

:

NO. 271 NOVEMBER TERM 1960

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS

:

DOCKET ENTRIES

DECEMBER 19, 1960 COMPLAINT IN DIVORCE filed. Two copies certified to the Sheriff

December 10, 1960 Petition of Shelba Jean Stevens for an Order
authorizing Service of Complaint in Divorce on a Convict filed.

Two copies certified to the Sheriff.

ORDER: AND NOW, to wit, this 16th day of December 1960, the Court
having determined that Stanley Lewis Stevens, defendant herein, is a prisoner
in the Intermediate Reformatory at Jefferson City, Missouri, on motion of
John Scollins, Esquire, Attorney for plaintiff leave is granted to serve the
Complaint in Divorce on defendant in said Institution, and the Sheriff is
hereby directed to deputize the Sheriff of Jefferson City, Cole County,
Missouri to serve the same on said defendant in said Institution, and this
Order to be sufficient warrant for his so doing. By the Court, John J Pentz P.J.

January 3, 1961, Sheriff's Return, filed. Return of Cole Co.,
Missouri, filed

I do hereby certify that on December 21st, 1960, I did serve a copy
of the Divorce Petition and summons upon Mr. Stanley L Stevens in Person. All
done in the County of Cole, State of Missouri at your request. Ben S Markway
Sheriff. Fred F Miller Deputy.

NOW, December 19, 1960, deputized the Sheriff of Cole County,
Missouri, to serve the within Complaint in Divorce upon Stanley Lewis Stevens.

NOW, December 21, 1960, served the within Complaint in Divorce upon
Stanley Lewis Stevens by deputizing the Sheriff of Cole County, Missouri.
The return of service of Ben S Markway, Sheriff of Cole County, Missouri, is
hereto attached and made part of this return of service. So Answers,
Charles G Ammerman, Sheriff.

January 23, 1961, By motion on Watch Book Eugene L Cimino, Esq. is
appointed Master to take testimony and report with form of Decree.

Certified from the records this 23rd day of January AD 1961.

Wm. G. Hagerty

In the Court of Common Pleas of CLEARFIELD County, Pennsylvania

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS

Plaintiff

versus

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS

Defendant

No. 27 November Term, 1960.

Complaint in Divorce

Name of Parties

1. The plaintiff is Shelba Jean Stevens
and the defendant is Stanley Lewis Stevens

If the plaintiff or defendant is a minor or incompetent indicate here

If there is a guardian, give name and address

If whereabouts is unknown, so state

State ground or grounds on which action is based in language of statute

Bonds of Matrimony or bed and board

2. The plaintiff's residence is 611 Mary Street, Houtzdale Borough, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania.
3. The defendant is a citizen of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
whose last known address is Box 61, Blandburg, Pennsylvania.
4. The plaintiff has resided in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania three (3) years immediately previous to the filing of this Complaint.
5. The plaintiff and defendant were married on January 11, 1956^(date)
at Falconer, New York By Rev. Wiemer, of the Baptist Church.
6. Plaintiff avers that (1) In violation of his marriage vows and of the laws of this Commonwealth, the defendant has over a period of time from May 13, 1959 at Clearfield, Pennsylvania, and other places, offered such indignities to the person of the plaintiff as to render her condition intolerable and life burdensome. And (2) On June 16, 1960, the defendant was convicted of the crime of forgery in Jefferson City, in the State of Missouri, and was sentenced therefor to imprisonment in the Missouri Intermediate Reformatory for a period of 2½ years.
7. Plaintiff avers this action is not collusive.
8. Plaintiff asks for divorce from the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between plaintiff and the defendant.
9. No prior action for divorce or annulment of the marriage between the parties has ever been instituted in this or any other jurisdiction.



Attorney for Plaintiff

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, }
County of.....CLEARFIELD..... } ss:

Before me, the undersigned authority, appeared Shelba Jean Stevens ,
who being duly sworn deposes and says that she knows of her own personal knowledge that
the facts contained in the Complaint in Divorce are true.

Shelba Jean Stevens
Plaintiff

Sworn and subscribed before me, the 13th day of December 19 60 ,
a Notary Public in and for the County of Clearfield and State of Pennsylvania.

Kathryn L. Scollins
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires March 8, 1963

Dec 27 1960 November Term, 19 60

Complaint in Divorce

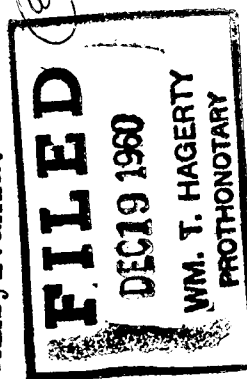
SHELBA JEAN STEVENS Plaintiff

versus

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS Defendant

To the within named defendant:
You are hereby required to plead to the
within complaint within 20 days from the
date of service hereof.

Wm. T. Hagerty
Attorney for Plaintiff
Houtzdale, Clearfield County,
Pennsylvania.



Wm. T. Hagerty

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS,
Plaintiff

No. 271 November Term, 1960

VS.

COMPLAINT IN DIVORCE.

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS,
Defendant.

PETITION FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING
SERVICE OF COMPLAINT IN DIVORCE
ON A CONVICT.

To the Honorable John J. Pentz,

President Judge of said Court:

The petition of Shelba Jean Stevens respectfully
represents:

1. That she is Plaintiff in the above-captioned
action for Divorce, and resides at 611 Mary Street in Houtz-
dale Borough, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania.

2. That the last known address of the Defendant, was
Box 61, Blandburg, Pennsylvania.

3. That the causes alleged in said Complaint are
(1) Indignities to the person and (2) Conviction of the
crime of forgery.

4. That the Defendant is imprisoned in the Missouri
Intermediate Reformatory in Jefferson City, Missouri.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays leave be granted to serve
the Complaint in Divorce on the defendant in said institution
and the Sheriff of Clearfield County be directed to deputize t
the Sheriff of Jefferson City, ^{Cole County,} Missouri to serve the same on
said defendant in the institution aforesaid.

And she will ever pray.

Shelba Jean Stevens
Petitioner.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA:

: SS:

COUNTY OF CLEARFIELD :

Shelba Jean Stevens, Plaintiff within named, being duly sworn according to law deposes and says that the facts stated in the foregoing petition are true and correct, to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

And further saith not.

Shelba Jean Stevens

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 13th day of December, 1960.

Nathryn L. Collins

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires March 9, 1963.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS,
Plaintiff

No. November Term, 1960

VS.

COMPLAINT IN DIVORCE.

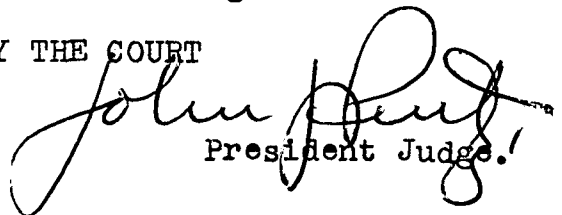
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS,
Defendant.

In Re: Petition for an Order authorizing
Service of the Complaint in Divorce
on a Convict.

ORDER OF COURT.

AND NOW, to wit, this 16th day of December, 1960
the Court having determined that Stanley Lewis Stevens, defendant
herein, is a prisoner in the Intermediate Reformatory at Jeffer-
son City, Missouri, on motion of John Scollibs, Esquire, attorney
for plaintiff, leave is granted to serve the Complaint in Divorce
on defendant in said Institution, and the Sheriff is hereby
directed to deputize the Sheriff of Jefferson City, Cole County,
Missouri to
serve the same on said defendant in said Institution, and this
order to be sufficient warrant for his so doing.

BY THE COURT


President Judge.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENN'A.	
NO. 271 November Term, 1960	
SHELBA JEAN STEVENS, Plaintiff	
VS.	
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS, Defendant.	
COMPLAINT IN DIVORCE	
ORDER OF COURT To be served in the Missouri Intermediate Reformatory at Jefferson City, Missouri, by order of the Court.	
<i>Wm. J. Steady</i> Prothonotary.	
JOHN SCOLLINS ATTORNEY AT LAW HOUTZDALE, PA.	

I hereby certify this to be a true and
correct copy of the original statement
filed in this case.

Attest: *Wm. J. Steady*
Prothonotary.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS,
Plaintiff

No. 271 November Term, 1960

VS.

COMPLAINT IN DIVORCE.

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS,
Defendant.

PETITION FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING
SERVICE OF COMPLAINT IN DIVORCE
ON A CONVICT.

To the Honorable John J. Pentz,

President Judge of said Court:

The petition of Shelba Jean Stevens respectfully
represents:

1. That she is Plaintiff in the above-captioned
action for Divorce, and resides at 611 Mary Street in Houtz-
dale Borough, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania.

2. That the last known address of the Defendant, was
Box 61, Blandburg, Pennsylvania.

3. That the causes alleged in said Complaint are
(1) Indignities to the person and (2) Conviction of the
crime of forgery.

4. That the Defendant is imprisoned in the Missouri
Intermediate Reformatory in Jefferson City, Missouri.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays leave be granted to serve
the Complaint in Divorce on the defendant in said institution
and the Sheriff of Clearfield County be directed to deputize t
the Sheriff of Jefferson City, Cole County,
Missouri to serve the same on
said defendant in the institution aforesaid.

And she will ever pray.

Shelba Jean Stevens
Petitioner.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA: : SS:
COUNTY OF CLEARFIELD :

Shelba Jean Stevens, Plaintiff within named, being duly sworn according to law deposes and says that the facts stated in the foregoing petition are true and correct, to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

And further saith not.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 13th day
of December, 1960.

Kathryn L. Collins
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires March 9, 1963

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS,
Plaintiff

No.

November Term, 1960

VS.

COMPLAINT IN DIVORCE.

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS,
Defendant.

In Re: Petition for an Order authorizing
Service of the Complaint in Divorce
on a Convict.

ORDER OF COURT.

AND NOW, to wit, this 16th day of December, 1960
the Court having determined that Stanley Lewis Stevens, defendant
herein, is a prisoner in the Intermediate Reformatory at Jeffer-
son City, Missouri, on motion of John Scolliba, Esquire, attorney
for plaintiff, leave is granted to serve the Complaint in Divorce
on defendant in said Institution, and the Sheriff is hereby
directed to deputize the Sheriff of Jefferson City, Cole County,
Missouri to
serve the same on said defendant in said Institution, and this
order to be sufficient warrant for his so doing.

BY THE COURT

President Judge.

s/John C. Pender

In the Court of Common Pleas of CLEARFIELD County, Pennsylvania

~~SHELBA JEAN STEVENS~~
Plaintiff

versus

~~STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS~~
Defendant

No. November Term, 1960

Complaint in Divorce

Name of Parties

1. The plaintiff is **Shelba Jean Stevens**
and the defendant is **Stanley Lewis Stevens**

If the plaintiff or defendant is a minor or incompetent indicate here

If there is a guardian, give name and address

If whereabouts is unknown, so state

State ground or grounds on which action is based in language of statute

Bonds of Matrimony or bed and board

2. The plaintiff's residence is **611 Mary Street, Houtzdale Borough, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania.**
3. The defendant is a citizen of **Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**
whose last known address is **Box 61, Blandburg, Pennsylvania.**
4. The plaintiff has resided in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania **three (3)** years
immediately previous to the filing of this Complaint.
5. The plaintiff and defendant were married on **January 11, 1956**
at **Falconer, New York** By **Rev. Wiemer, of the Baptist Church.**
6. Plaintiff avers that (1) In violation of his marriage vows and of the laws of this Commonwealth, the defendant has over a period of time from May 13, 1959 at Clearfield, Pennsylvania, and other places, offered such indignities to the person of the plaintiff as to render her condition intolerable and life burdensome. And (2) On June 16, 1960, the defendant was convicted of the crime of forgery in Jefferson City, in the State of Missouri, and was sentenced therefor to imprisonment in the Missouri Intermediate Reformatory for a period of $2\frac{1}{2}$ years.
7. Plaintiff avers this action is not collusive.
8. Plaintiff asks for divorce from the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between plaintiff and the defendant.
9. No prior action for divorce or annulment of the marriage between the parties has ever been instituted in this or any other jurisdiction.

John Scollin
Attorney for Plaintiff

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, }
County of CLEARFIELD } ss:

Before me, the undersigned authority, appeared **Shelba Jean Stevens**,
who being duly sworn deposes and says that **she** knows of **her** own personal knowledge that
the facts contained in the Complaint in Divorce are true.

Shelba Jean Stevens
Plaintiff

Sworn and subscribed before me, the **13th** day of **December** 19 **60**,
a **Notary Public** in and for the County of **Clearfield** and State of Pennsylvania.

Kathryn L. Scellins
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires March 9, 1963

20th November.....Term, 1960.....

Complaint in Divorce

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS
Plaintiff

versus

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS
Defendant

To the within named defendant:
You are hereby required to plead to the
within complaint within 20 days from the
date of service hereof.

K. Scellins
Attorney for Plaintiff
Houtzdale, Clearfield County,
Pennsylvania.

AND NOW, this 28th day of April, 1961, the five (5) day notice of filing of the Master's Report as required by Rule 11, Section 14 of the Clearfield County Rules of Court is hereby waived by the undersigned Counsel for Plaintiff.

John Scollins
John Scollins - Attorney for Plaintiff

MASTER'S REPORT IN DIVORCE NO. 271 November Term, 1960	
SHELBA JEAN STEVENS, Plaintiff	
VS.	
STANLEY LEWIS, Defendant	
THIS IS AN UNCONTESTED CASE!	
STATEMENT OF MASTER'S COSTS	
Master's Fee -----	\$85.00
Service of Notice-----	3.50
Of Master's Hearing Adv. by Master	
Stenographer's Fee-----	10.00
TOTAL -- \$ 98.50	
Eugene L. Hagerty Clerk of Court	
AND NOW, this _____ day of _____, 1961, the above costs are approved. BY THE COURT,	
P.J.	
FILED APR 29 1961 EUGENE L. HAGERTY CLERK OF COURT 138 CURTIS ST. OSCEOLA MILLS, PA.	
THE PLANKENHORN CO., WILLIAMSPORT, PA.	

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Shelba Jean Stevens : No. 271 November Term, 1960

vs

:

Stanley Lewis Stevens : Complaint In Divorce

(SHERIFF'S RETURN)

NOW, December 19, 1960 deputized the Sheriff of Cole County, Missouri to serve the within Complaint In Divorce upon Stanley Lewis Stevens.

NOW, December 21, 1960 served the within Complaint In Divorce upon Stanley Lewis Stevens by deputizing the Sheriff of Cole County, Missouri. The return of service of Ben S. Markway, Sheriff of Cole County, Missouri, is hereto attached and made part of this return of service.

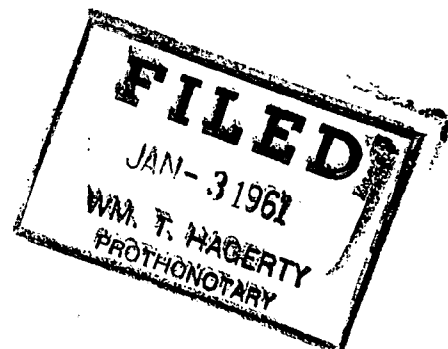
COSTS: Sheriff Ammerman \$6.00
Sheriff of Cole County, Missouri \$5.00
(Paid by Atty Scollins)

So answers,

Charles G. Ammerman
CHARLES G. AMMERMAN
Sheriff

Sworn to before me this 3rd
day of January A. D. 1961.

Wm. T. Hagerty
Prothonotary





OFFICE OF THE
Sheriff of Clearfield County

CLEARFIELD, PA., December 19, _____, 19 60

Shelba Jean ~~XXX~~ Stevens

vs.

Stanley Lewis Stevens

November Term, 19 60

No. 271

To the Sheriff of Cole County, Missouri County:

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find writ Complaint In Divorce

to be served upon Stanley Lewis Stevens at

Missouri Intermediate Reformatory, Jefferson City, Missouri in your County.

Kindly make service thereof and return with the amount of your costs.

Yours truly,

CHARLES G. AMMERMAN
Sheriff.

SHERIFFS RETURN

I do hereby certify that on December 21st, 1960, I did serve a copy of the Divorce Petition and summons upon Mr Stanley L. Stevens in person. All done in the county of Cole, State of Missouri at your request.

fee--- \$2.00
Mile.- 2.00
Notary 1.00

\$5.00 pd.

B. S. Markum sheriff
Fred E. Miller deputy

State of Missouri }
County of Cole } SS.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of December, 1960.

Ray M. Loe
Notary Public within and for
Cole County, Mo.

My Commission expires
April 4, 1964.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS, :
Plaintiff : No. 271 November Term, 1960
vs. :
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS, : In Divorce
Defendant :

NOTICE OF MASTER'S HEARING

TO: Shelba Jean Stevens
611 Mary Street
Houtzdale Borough
Clearfield County,
Pennsylvania

Dear Madam:

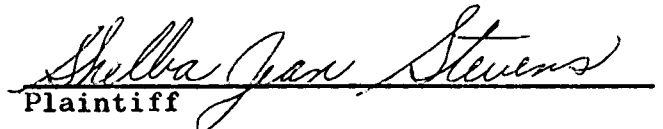
You are hereby notified that I have been appointed Master to take testimony in the above captioned divorce action. I shall hold a meeting on Saturday, March 4th, 1961 at 1:30 P.M. E.S.T. at the Law Offices of the Master, Eugene L. Cimino, Esquire 138 Curtin Street, Osceola Borough, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of taking testimony, at which time and place you are requested to appear with your witnesses and present testimony, if you so desire.


Eugene L. Cimino, Master

AND NOW, the 31st day of January, 1961, service of Master's Notice of Hearing is hereby accepted and a receipt of copy thereof is hereby acknowledged as Counsel in behalf of Plaintiff.


John Scollins - Atty. for Plaintiff

AND NOW, the 31st day of January, 1961, service of Master's Notice of Hearing is hereby accepted and a receipt of copy thereof is hereby acknowledged.


Plaintiff

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS, :
Plaintiff : No. 271 November Term, 1960
vs. :
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS, : In Divorce
Defendant :

NOTICE OF MASTER'S HEARING

TO: Stanley Lewis Stevens Intermediate Reformatory
Box 61 - and/or - Jefferson City
Blandburg, Pennsylvania Cole County,
Missouri

Dear Sir:

You are hereby notified that I have been appointed Master to take testimony in the above captioned divorce action. I shall hold a meeting on Saturday, March 4, 1961 at 1:30 P.M. E.S.T. at the Law Offices of the Master, Eugene L. Cimino, Esquire, 138 Curtin Street, Osceola Borough, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, for the purpose of taking testimony, at which time and place you are requested to appear with your witnesses and present testimony, if you so desire.

Eugene L. Cimino
Eugene L. Cimino, Master

Sheriff's Return

I hereby certify that on Feb. 10th, 1961 I did serve the within notice on Mr. Stanley Lewis Stevens in person and that I did drive 20 miles from start to return in delivery of same. All done in County of Cole, State of Mo.

fee - .50

mileage - 2.00

\$2.50

3.50 - Sheriff's fee
1.00 - Notary fee
2.50 - Total
Cert. served
Shertcut A.C. Webb, sheriff.
Fred J. Miller, deputy.

Sworn and subscribed to

before me, a Notary Public,

this 10th day of February, 1961.

Jim M. Stone My Comm. expires April 4, 1964

IV. CAUSE OF DIVORCE

The causes of Divorce alleged in Plaintiff's Complaint are Indignities and conviction of a felony of forgery, within or without this Commonwealth, and having been sentenced to imprisonment for a term of two years or more by a competent court having jurisdiction.

V. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. MARRIAGE. The Plaintiff, Shelba Jean Stevens, and the Defendant, Stanley Lewis Stevens, were married on January 11, 1956, at Falconer, New York, by Rev. Wiemer, of the Baptist Church.
2. RESIDENCE. The parties, Plaintiff and Defendant, were residents of Clearfield County during most of their marriage; and after their separation, the Plaintiff resided at Coalport and Houtzdale, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania; and the Defendant was confined to the Intermediate Reformatory of Jefferson City, Missouri, thus establishing the necessary jurisdiction for the Court of Common Pleas of Clearfield County.
3. CITIZENSHIP. The Defendant husband, Stanley Lewis Stevens, is a native born resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and is therefore a citizen of the United States of America. The Plaintiff, Shelba Jean Stevens, is a citizen of the United States of America, having been a native born resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
4. AGES AND OCCUPATIONS. The Plaintiff, Shelba Jean Stevens, is twenty-two (22) years of age and is a housewife. The Defendant, Stanley Lewis Stevens, is a laborer by occupation, and is twenty-five (25) years of age.
5. CHILDREN. There were four (4) children born of this marriage, namely: Stanley Lewis, Jr., born on October 26, 1956; Sheena Marie, born on September 29, 1957, and having died at birth; Timothy Eugene, born on August 14, 1958; and Betty Darlene, born on August 8, 1960.
6. ARMED FORCES: The Defendant, Stanley Lewis Stevens, is not now a member of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, but did serve in the Army and was discharged prior to the marriage of the within parties. The Plaintiff, Shelba Jean Stevens, was never a member of the Armed Forces of the United States.

7. FINDINGS ON THE MERITS. The testimony rendered in the case at bar and the evidence revealed the following finding of fact as to the allegations of Indignities and Conviction of a felony of forgery, within or without this Commonwealth, and having been sentenced to imprisonment for a term of two years or more by a competent court having jurisdiction:

1. That there is no agreement between the parties or collusion for the purpose of procuring this Divorce.

2. That the Complaint was not filed out of levity.

3. That there has been no Complaint filed by either of the parties hereto in any other Court of this Commonwealth or in any other jurisdiction for the purpose of obtaining a Divorce.

4. That the Plaintiff wife always conducted herself in a proper manner and gave the Defendant husband no cause to complain.

5. That the Defendant husband during the course of their marriage displayed an absolute or utter lack of marital responsibility toward his wife and family in providing for their needs of life.

6. That at no time during the course of their marriage did the husband engage in gainful employment nor did he provide in any manner for his wife and family, but instead depended on others and the Welfare and Relief Roles to provide for himself, wife, and children.

7. The husband did not seek employment or any visible means of providing a livelihood for his wife and family. As an actual matter of fact, it was necessary for the wife to borrow money from friends and neighbors in order to obtain food for herself and her children. When they did receive checks from the Welfare, Defendant husband would cash them and spend them on himself for his own personal needs.

8. The Defendant husband also appeared in the Court of Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, and the State of Missouri, on charges of forging checks. The Defendant was sentenced to the Allegheny Workhouse for his crimes in Clearfield County, and is presently serving in the Intermediate Reformatory for Young Men at Jefferson City, Missouri, for the criminal charges for which he pled guilty in that State. This is evidenced by Exhibits "A, B, C, D, E, F, and G" attached hereto.

9. That the Plaintiff wife was properly before the Court and the parties were properly married on January 11, 1956, at Falconer, New York, by Rev. Wiemer, of the Baptist Faith; and that there were four children born of this marriage, one having died at birth.

8. DISCUSSION. The Defendant husband failed to assume the responsibility of a faithful and dutiful husband towards his wife, and failed to fill the paternal role of a father toward his children.

The record and testimony of the case at bar as revealed by the Plaintiff's wife's own testimony and which is corroborated or substantiated by her witnesses, Mrs. Myrtle Parsons, Elmer Parsons, and Mrs. Robert Thomas, clearly indicates a constant record of marital irresponsibility on the part of the Defendant husband. As an actual matter of fact, the Defendant husband displays a talent for shirking the duties of marriage or the responsibility connected in providing the needs of life for his wife and children.

The testimony also reveals that the husband never provided a real home for his wife and family, nor did he ever seek or engage in gainful employment so as to provide for his wife and children. He displayed no love or affection for his wife or children and did not at any time seek to ease the burdens of their marriage by at least providing the material wants and necessities of life as a husband should. Because of the children, the Plaintiff wife was unable to seek employment for herself and at times had to borrow money and food from neighbors, friends, and her family in order to feed and nourish her children.

The Pennsylvania case law is rampant with authority substantiating the indignities set forth in the testimony in the case at bar. In view of the testimony which has been rendered in this case, the Master is of the opinion that the Plaintiff wife has sustained her allegations of indignities set forth in her Complaint.

The following cases or citations substantiate the granting of a divorce in the case at bar on grounds of Indignities, since the cases cited are parallel and analogous to the case at bar and sustain the Plaintiff wife's position or averments of indignities in the case at bar: In HURLEY VS. HURLEY, 119 A2d, 634, 180 Pa. Super. 364., 1956, the Court states - "The essential feature of the offense

of "indignities" as grounds for divorce is that it must consist of a course of conduct or continued treatment which renders the condition of the innocent party intolerable and his or her life burdensome."

In DE FRANCESCO VS. DE FRANCESCO, 115, A2d 411, 179 Pa. Super., 106, 1955, the Court states - "In support of the charge of indignities, there must be evidence from which an inference of settled hate and estrangement on the part of the Defendant in a divorce action may be inferred."

In MOYER VS. MOYER, 124 a2d, 632, 181 Pa. Super. 400, 1956, the Court states - "To support a charge of indignities, there must be evidence from which an inference of settled hate and estrangement may be deduced."

In PORTZLINE VS. PORTZLINE, 26 Northumberland L.J. 74, 1956, the Court states - "Continuous unfounded accusations of infidelity, accompanied by other degrading conduct, are sufficient to make a case of "indignities" to the person as grounds for divorce. To amount to "indignities" justifying a divorce, charges of infidelity made by defendant not only must be false but must have been without reasonable grounds for believing it to be true; in an action for divorce from bed and board on the grounds of indignities, the law contemplates a course of conduct or continued treatment manifesting settled hate and estrangement.

It is unquestionable, from the facts and testimony of the case at bar substantiated by the Plaintiff and her witnesses and the Pennsylvania Case Law applicable thereto, that the Plaintiff wife is without doubt entitled to the divorce based upon the allegation of Indignities set forth in her Complaint.

In addition to the allegation of Indignities as a ground for divorce in the instant case, the Plaintiff also alleges Conviction of the crime of forgery, or in the exact wording of the Statute as follows: "That it shall be lawful for the innocent and injured spouse to obtain a divorce from the bonds of matrimony, whenever it shall be judged, in the manner hereinafter provided, that the other spouse - -

(h.) Shall have been convicted, as principal or as accessory either before or after the fact, within or without this Commonwealth, of the crime of arson, burglary, embezzlement, forgery, kidnapping, larceny, murder, either in the first or second degree, assault with intent to kill, voluntary manslaughter, perjury, rape, robbery, sodomy, buggery, pendering, treason or misprision of treason, and be sentenced to imprisonment for any term of two years or more by a competent court having jurisdiction.

The facts in the within case indicate from a review of the Exhibits "A to G" inclusive, that the Defendant was convicted of the crime of forgery before the Circuit Court of Johnson County, Missouri, at Warrensburg in the matter of the State of Missouri vs. Stanley Lewis Stevens to #3181; and that the Defendant was duly represented by Counsel appointed by the Court, namely: William J. Henesley, a member of the Bar of Johnson County, Missouri. It is to be further noted that the Defendant entered a plea of guilty to the charge of forgery which crime is a felony in the State of Missouri. Whereupon, on the 9th day of May, 1960, the Court pronounced the following sentence upon the Defendant:

"Imprisonment in an institution to be designated by the Department of Correction of the State of Missouri in accordance with law for a term of two (2) years and pronounces sentence in accordance therewith; sentence to commence on May 10, 1960.

The Exhibit "A" is an exhibit of the record of the proceedings before the Hon. Judge William M. Kimberlin, Judge of the 17th Judicial Court of the State of Missouri, and such exemplification appears in and was taken from the records of Circuit Court Book 60 at Page 116 and was duly certified by the Circuit Court of said Court on the 13th day of February, 1961.

In addition thereto, Exhibit "B" indicates by letter dated January 16, 1960, from Ray F. French, Superintendent of the Department of Correction of the Missouri Intermediate Reformatory, that the Defendant was confined to that Institution. This Exhibit was duly identified by the recipient, Mrs. Shelba Jean Stevens, Plaintiff herein and wife of the Defendant.

In addition thereto, there were various letters from the Defendant, which were duly identified by the Plaintiff, since they were addressed to her by the Defendant

The various Exhibits substantiate without any doubt or question the Defendant's conviction of the crime of forgery, his sentence for a period of two (2) years by the Court and his final incarceration on confinement to a penal institution by the Department of Correction, Johnson County, Missouri, where the Defendant is still confined.

The following Pennsylvania Case Law justifies the granting of a divorce in the instant case, not only upon the ground of Indignities, but also for the Conviction of a Felony or Crime of Forgery and committed to a penal institution for a period of two (2) years, as is evidenced by the facts and testimony and records in the instant case.

The following Pennsylvania Case Law is cited in support of the above: IN SMITH VS. SMITH, 84 D. & C. 535, 1954, the Court, states - "Conviction of a crime and sentence thereon, to justify a divorce, must be subsequent to the marriage."

In MYLONAS VS. MYLONAS, 81 D. & C., 462, the Court said - "To justify a divorce on ground of conviction of crime, record of the proceedings must be authenticated by the proper officials and defendant in the divorce action must be identified as person involved in the conviction and sentence."

Also, in MURAWSKI VS. MURAWSKI, the Court states - "To comply with provision it is necessary to prove both conviction and sentence. Murawski vs. Murawski, 13 Wash., 124 (1932)."

VI. CONCLUSION OF LAW

1. The Plaintiff and Defendant contracted a legal marriage; the marriage relation still exists between them.

2. The parties are properly before the Court; certified copy of the original Complaint having been accepted and acknowledged by the Defendant. So Answers, Sheriff Ben S. Markey and Deputy Fred F. Miller of Cole County, Missouri, who handed to the Defendant, personally, a true and correct copy of the original Complaint in Divorce and made known to him the contents thereof. Notice of the Master's Hearing and service thereof was made upon the Defendant on the 10th day of February, 1961, by Sheriff H.O. Debs and Deputy Fred F. Miller of Cole County, Missouri. Plaintiff's Counsel accepted service of the Notice of Master's hearing on January 31, 1961; said notices and acceptances thereof being attached to this report and made an integral part thereof.

3. The Court of Common Pleas of Clearfield County has jurisdiction of the parties and of the subject matter. The Plaintiff was born in Pennsylvania and has resided in the Commonwealth since her birth excepting when she resided with her husband in New York State. The Defendant is a native born resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and therefore, is a citizen of the United States of America and has resided in the Commonwealth since the time of his birth, excepting when he and his family resided at New York State, and presently is confined to the Intermediate Reformatory for Young Men at Jefferson City, Missouri.

4. The facts in the case at bar establishes the grounds of Indignities and Conviction of a felony, within or without this Commonwealth, and having been sentenced to imprisonment for a term of two years or more by a competent court having jurisdiction/

5. There has been no collusion, connivance or levity between the parties in this case.

6. The Defendant is not now a member of the Armed Forces, but did serve in the Army before the marriage of the parties hereto and was also discharged prior to their marriage. The Plaintiff was never a member of the Armed Forces of the United States of America and is not now a member thereof.

7. It is unquestionable, from the facts and testimony of the case at bar substantiated by the Plaintiff and her witnesses and the Pennsylvania Case Law applicable thereto, that the Plaintiff wife is without doubt entitled to the divorce based upon the allegations of both Indignities and Conviction of a Felony, within or with this Commonwealth, and having been sentenced to imprisonment for a term of two years or more by a competent court having jurisdiction. The testimony of the Plaintiff wife in the case at bar, likewise, is substantiated, as a persual of the testimony will reveal, by the witnesses who testified in her behalf and corroborated the averments and evidence of Plaintiff.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS : No. 271 November Term, 1960

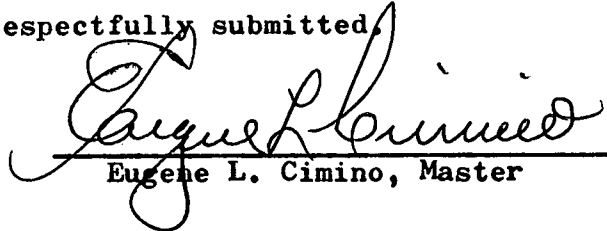
VS. : IN DIVORCE

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS:

VII. RECOMMENDATION OF THE MASTER

The Master, therefore, finds that the averments of the Complaint have been sustained and recommends that the Plaintiff be granted and that a Decree of Divorce be entered by your Honorable Court divorcing Shelba Jean Stevens, the Plaintiff, and Stanley Lewis Stevens, the Defendant, from the Bonds of matrimony (A Vinculo Matrimonii) now existing between them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.


Eugene L. Cimino, Master

In the Court of Common Pleas of Clearfield County, Pennsylvania

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS,

Plaintiff

VERSUS

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS,

Defendant

Of No. 271 November Term, 1960No. 271

DIVORCE

And Now, the 29th day of May April 1961, the report of the Master is acknowledged. We approve his findings and recommendations; except as to _____

We, therefore, DECREE that Shelba Jean Stevens be divorced and forever separated from the nuptial ties and bonds of matrimony heretofore contracted between ~~himself~~ ^{herself} and Stanley Lewis Stevens. Thereupon all the rights, duties or claims accruing to either of said parties in pursuance of said marriage, shall cease and determine, and each of them shall be at liberty to marry again as though they had never been heretofore married, except that _____

The Prothonotary is directed to pay the Court costs, including Master's fees, as noted herein, out of the deposits received and then remit the balance to the libellant. No Decree to issue until the costs be fully paid. We do further award to the said _____

Shelba Jean Stevens~~his~~
her costs expended in this action.

ATTEST

Wm. T. Hagerthy

Prothonotary

BY THE COURT

Hon. John J. Penz

President Judge

In The Court Of Common Pleas
Of Clearfield County, Penna.

No. 271 November Term 19 60

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS,

Libellant

VERSUS

STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS,

Respondent

DECREE

Law Offices
John Scollins, Esq
Brisbin Street
Houtzdale, Penna.
Attorney for Plaintiff

IX.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS, : No. 271 November Term, 1960
Plaintiff :
Vs. : IN DIVORCE
:
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS, :
Defendant :

HEARING

Hearing was held before Eugene L. Cimino, Esq., Master, at the Office of Eugene L. Cimino, Esq., 138 Curtin Street, Osceola Borough, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, March 4, 1961, at 1:30 P.M., E.S.T.

APPEARANCES

The Plaintiff, Shelba Jean Stevens, appeared in person, together with three witnesses in her behalf, namely: Mrs. Myrtle Parsons, her mother; Elmer Parsons, her father; and Mrs. Robert Thomas, her Sister; and her Counsel, John Scollins, Esq. Defendant did not appear neither was he represented by Counsel. Counsel for Plaintiff offered in evidence all of the papers filed to No. 271 November Term, 1960, including Complaint in Divorce, Affidavit of Services, Return of Services, Petition for Order Authorizing Service of Complaint in Divorce on a Convict, Appointment of Master and his Commission, and the Notices of Master's Hearing and Exhibits.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS, : No. 271 November Term, 1960
Plaintiff :
vs. : IN DIVORCE
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS, :
Defendant :

Minutes of the hearing held on Saturday, March 4, 1961 at 1:30 o'clock P.M. (E.S.T.) at the office of Eugene L. Ciminok Esquire, 138 Curtin Street, Osceola Borough, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania. Appearances noted: Shelba Jean Stevens, Plaintiff, together with her Counsel, John Scollins, Esquire; Elmer Parsons, Myrtle Stevens and Mrs. Robert Thomas, as witnesses in behalf of the Plaintiff. Defendant did not appear, neither was he represented by Counsel, All the Court papers filed in the matter are offered in evidence and admitted.

Shelba Jean Stevens, Plaintiff, being duly sworn according to law, testified as follows:

BY JOHN SCOLLINS, ESQUIRE:

Q. You at present reside in Houtzdale Borough?

A. Yes.

Q. You live on ~~Hannah~~ Street in Houtzdale?

A. Yes.

Q. And at the time you filed this Complaint, you lived on 611 Mary St.?

A. Yes.

Q. You are married to Stanley Lewis Stevens?

A. Yes.

Q. When ^{were} you married?

A. January 11, 1956.

Q. And where were you married?

A. At Falconer, New York.

Q. By whom?

A. By Reverend Wiemer

Q. Of what denomination?

A. Baptist.

Q. Where does your husband reside?

Q. What was his last known address?

A. Coalport, Pennsylvania.

Q. And do you know where he is now?

A. In Missouri.

Q. And what is he doing there?

A. He is in a reformatory for young men.

Q. Convicted of crime?

A. Forgery.

Q. Where was your husband born?

A. In Lockport, New York.

Q. Where were you born?

A. Tyrone, Pennsylvania.

Q. What is your age?

A. Twenty-two (22).

Q. Do you have any occupation?

A. No.

Q. And your husband, what is his age?

A. He will be twenty-five (25) in March.

Q. Now, you say you have three (3) children?

A. Yes.

Q. And their names are what?

A. Stanley Lewis Stevens, Jr., born October 26, 1956 in Jamestown, N. Y.
Timothy Eugene Stevens, born August 14, 1958 in the Altoona, Hospital.
Betty Darlene Stevens, born August 8, 1960 in the Philipsburg Hospital.

Q. And they live with you at the present time?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, was your husband in the military service - army or navy?

A. I guess he was in the army.

Q. He has been discharged then?

Q. Now did your husband serve in the military armed forces?

A. Yes.

Q. That was prior to your marriage?

A. Yes.

Q. And he has now been discharged and is now a civilian?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, you charge the defendant here with indignities to your person; when did your trouble start?

A. Well, the first time he was arrested was May 13, 1959.

Q. And where was he arrested?

A. He was picked up in Moraan, Clearfield County, Pa.

Q. What was he charged with?

A. Forgery.

Q. Passing bad checks?

A. Yes.

Q. And he was tried in Clearfield County?

A. Yes.

By John Scollins, Esq.: We also offer the record of the Court of Common Pleas of Clearfield County, Pa. filed to May 15, 1959 feloniously charged with issuing worthless checks, which he plead guilty and was sentenced to the work house in Pittsburgh.

By Eugene L. Cimino, Esq.: The sentence of the Quarter Sessions Court of Clearfield County in the matter of the Commonwealth versus Stanley Lewis Stevens to No. 15 May Sessions, 1959, all of which is docketed, filed and recorded in the office of the prothonotary of Clearfield County is hereby admitted as part of the record in this case and the original papers to be returned to the prothonotary's office. The Order of Court is dated November 6, 1959, wherein the defendant, Stanley Lewis Stevens, was sentenced to the Allegheny County Workhouse for a period of 14 months. It is to be admitted as Exhibit A in behalf of the plaintiff.

Q. Following his discharge or parole from the workhouse, was he again arrested?

A. Yes. In Missouri.

Q. Before he went to Missouri? In Blair County - Hollidaysburg?

A. He was at Hollidaysburg; he was in Hollidaysburg when he got out the first time.

Q. Why was he sentenced in Clearfield County? Where was he arrested first?

A. In Clearfield County and he served his time in Pittsburgh and then they sent him to Hollidaysburg.

Q. Was he arrested again for passing bad checks in Blair County?

A. Yes.

Q. And following his discharge from Hollidaysburg, Blair County, Pa., what did he do?

A. Well, when he got out of there, we went back together again at Coalport - December 5, 1959.

Q. How long did you live in Coalport?

A. Well, we lived there until March - we separated in March; I left him then.

Q. For what reason?

A. Well, were getting welfare and he just took all the checks and wouldn't buy us anything to eat - the kids were always hungry. So when we got the check that day, he took the whole check and everything, so I just left.

Q. Where did you go?

A. I went home to my mother and dad.

Q. Where was that?

A. In Blain City.

Q. Where did he go?

A. Well, I don't know where he went, but when he came back, he said he had been in New York - that was in August - and he asked me to go back with him and I wouldn't go; so he left again and the next thing I heard from, he was clipped and was in Missouri.

Q. Was that when you received that notice from the reformatory?

A. Yes.

Counsel for the Plaintiff, Attorney John Scollins, wishes to admit as part of the record in this case, a formal notification from the Department of Corrections in Jefferson City, Missouri, wherein it is set forth that the plaintiff's husband or the defendant in this case, Stanley Lewis Stevens, was confined to a State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri. This shall be admitted as part of the record, if there are no objections, as Exhibit B, in behalf of the plaintiff.

Q. And that was the charge on which he was sentenced later to the penitentiary?

A. Yes.

Q. For two (2) years?

A. Yes.

Q. And he's now incarcerated in the reformatory at Jefferson City?

A. Yes.

Q. What were these indignities that you referred to here in your complaint?

A. That he left us go hungry and he slapped the oldest boy around.

Q. Where did you go then? for money?

A. Well, I had to go to my mother and father and my sister and a lot of friends that I don't even know to get money to get milk for the baby.

Q. Where were you living at that time?

A. That was all the time. He never provided for us, never bought food.

Q. Where were you living at that time? Coalport?

A. Well, we lived different places, Bellwood, Blandburg, in that vicinity.

Q. Was that before he was arrested?

A. That was before he was arrested the first time and after he came back the second time, he still left us like that; and that is why I left him.

Q. Where was he arrested the second time? Wasn't that at Clearfield? Clearfield County?

A. In Clearfield County - Yes, that was the first time he was arrested.

Q. Your husband was paroled from the penitentiary or workhouse - did he return to you?

A. Yes.

Q. Where were you living then?

A. Coalport.

Q. How did you get along then?

A. Well, we didn't get along.

Q. For how long?

A. Well, we lived together from December to March - 1959 or I mean 1960.

Q. I see there was a bench warrant issued for him April 15, 1960 - where was he then; did they find him?

A. I don't know where he was then.

Q. From the workhouse he came home to your home?

A. Yes.

Q. Where were you living then?

A. Coalport, Clearfield County, Pa.

Q. Now then, how long did he stay with you?

A. Till March.

BY EUGENE L. CIMINO, ESQUIRE, MASTER:

Q. Now you state that your name is Shelba Jean Stevens? Is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. And you are the plaintiff in this action?

A. Yes.

Q. You are bring this divorce action against your husband?

A. Yes.

Q. And your husband is Stanley Lewis Stevens, the defendant?

A. Yes.

Q. And this action which you have instituted through your counsel, or attorney, Mr. John Scollins of Houtzdale, was filed in the Court of Commonth Pleas of Clearfield County, Pa., is that right?

A. Yes.

- Q. And I show you - to No. 271 November Term, 1960 and it is a Complaint in Divorce, is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now, at the time you instituted this Complaint in Divorce, Mrs. Stevens, you resided at 611 Mary Street, Houtzdale Borough, Clearfield County, Pa., is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And where do you reside now, Mrs. Stevens?
- A. At 618 Hanah Street, Houtzdale Borough, Clearfield County, Pa.
- Q. And you are a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And how long have you lived in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?
- A. Since 1957.
- Q. And approximately what month and day?
- A. Around the first of January, 1957.
- Q. So you have resided here for approximately a period of 4 years?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Where was the last place you lived together with your husband prior to your separation?
- A. Coalport.
- Q. That is likewise in the Borough of Coalport, Clearfield County, Pa.?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Or in the Blain City section of Coalport?
- A. No, is was right in Coalport.
- Q. Then the last known address of your husband was Box 61, Blandsburg, Cambria County, Pa.? Is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And insofar as you know now from the Court records in the exemplification that your attorney has presented here as an exhibit in this case, your husband is now confined to a State Penitentiary in Jefferson City, Missouri, is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now, Mrs. Stevens, you were married to your husband, Stanley Lewis Stevens, on January 11, 1956, is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And you were married at Falconer, New York?
- A. Yes.

Q. And you were married by Reverend Weimer, a minister of the Baptist Church?

A. Yes.

Q. And this was a church ceremony in which you were married?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, Mrs. Stevens, there is no collusion or agreement between you and your husband to obtain this divorce?

A. No.

Q. Now this divorce is brought on the grounds of indignities, and the grounds that your husband was convicted of the crime of forgery and sentenced for a period of 2 or more years in the state of Missouri in a State Penal Institution in Jefferson City, Missouri, is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. Now this action in divorce is brought for an absolute divorce from the bonds of matrimony between you and your husband?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, there has been no prior action of divorce or annulment from this marriage ever instituted by you or your husband, other than this action?

A. No.

Q. Now, this is your signature, Mrs. Stevens, is it not to this Complaint in Divorce?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, Mr. Scollins, would you proceed ...

Counsel for the Plaintiff offers for the record an exemplification of proceeding of the Circuit Court of Johnson County, Missouri to No. 3181 the State of Missouri, plaintiff, vursus Stanley L. Stevens, defendant on the charge of forgery - a conviction by the Court and sentenced for a period of two (2) years.

The Master will admit the exemplification of the record of the State of Missouri, County of Johnson, which has been duly exemplified, and certified by the prothonotary and the Judge of the Circuit Court of Johnson County as part of the record in this case and as Exhibit A in behalf of the plaintiff. If there are no further objections thereto, let it be admitted as part of the record in this case. Exemplified copy of the record of these proceedings shows that the defendant, Stanley Lewis Stevens, entered a plea of guilty to the crime of forgery in the State of Missouri, having appeared before the Circuit Court of Johnson County, Missouri at Warrensburg and was convicted and sentenced by the Court for a term of two (2) years to commence on the tenth day of May, 1960; and the record so states in the exemplification thereof submitted.

BY JOHN SCOLLINS, ESQUIRE:

Q. Your marriage, January 11, 1956, - where did you live?

A. Well, we lived in New York.

Q/ What part of New York?
A. Jamestown.

Q. And, how long did you live there?
A. Well, we lived there until January of 1957.

Q. Then where did you move to?
A. Then we moved to Pennsylvania.

Q. What place in Pennsylvania?
A. To Blandburg.

Q. Where did you live first? Did you live in Blandburg first?
A. The first time we came, we lived in Blandburg.

Q. How long did you live there?
A. About two months.

Q. How did you get along there - did your husband work?
A. No. He just - any little thing he could pick up.

Q. He had no regular employment?
A. No.

Q. How did you live then?
A. Well, on a couple of dollars he would bring in and what I could borrow from somebody or what other people would give us.

Q. How long did that conditions exist there?
A. Well --

Q. A month did you say?
A. Yes.

Q. Where did you go then?
A. Well then we went to Bellwood.

Q. And what did you do there? Who did you live with there?
A. When we went to Bellwood we lived by ourselves. Mom and them the first time.

Q. With your people?
A. Yes.

Q. Your mother and father?
A. Yes.

Q. And, how long did you stay there?
A. About a month.

Q. And, did your husband work any at all?
A. He worked a little bit for Johnny Walker.

Q. And, did you go on relief or what kept you? Did your people keep you or who?
A. Yes, between my mother and father and other people.

Q. They supported you in Bellwood?
A. Yes.

Q. Then where did you go?
A. We moved to Blandburg - from Bellwood to Blandburg.

Q. Alright, did you take up housekeeping there?
A. Yes.

Q. Well how long did you live in Blandburg?
A. Oh, about two or three months.

Q. Did he work there?
A. No.

Q. What kept you ?
A. Well, part of the time on what other people would give us until we did apply for relief.

Q. You applied for relief?
A. Yes.

Q. Your husband, you and the three children?
A. No, one child then.

Q. And, have you been on Assistance ever since?
A. Just about, yes.

Q. Now, following your residences in Blandburg, where did you move to?
A. Altoona.

Q. And, did your husband work there?
A. For a couple of weeks.

Q. You lived on Welfare there?
A. Yes.

Q. How did he act toward you and the children? At Altoona?
A. Well, anytime any checks would come or any money he would want to spend it on himself; and the kids and I were mostly always hungry.

Q. How long did this last - where did you go from there?
A. Back to Blandburg.

Q. To your people or --
A. No, beside them.

Q. Beside your parents at Blandburg?
A. Yes.

Q. And, you were still on Assistance there?
A. Yes.

Q. And, how did he behave, did he work there and support you and the children?
A. Well, no he didn't work. We lived on Welfare.

Q. And, from there where did you go?
A. We lived up in Altoona, until he was picked up.

Q. When was that?
A. That was May 13th.

Q. May 13th of what year?
A. 1959.

Q. What was he picked up for?
A. Forgery.

Q. And, where had he committed these forgeries?
A. In Clearfield County and in Blair County.

Q. He was sentenced to the Workhouse in Clearfield County?
A. Yes.

Q. And how long did he stay in the Workhouse?
A. He was sentenced for 14 months.

Q. Well, how long did he serve?
A. He served from May until December.

Q. And then, he was paroled?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he come back and did you take up living together again?

A. Yes.

Q. Where?

A. In Coalport.

Q. Well, how long did you stay together there?

A. From December until March.

Q. What happened in March?

A. I left him because he was taking the checks and all the money. He was spending it all on himself and wouldn't buy the kids any groceries.

Q. Where did you go?

A. I went to my mother and fathers.

Q. And where were they living then?

A. In Coalport.

Q. And, when did you next hear ~~fm~~ of him?

A. The next time I heard of him was in April. He asked me if I would go back with him and I refused to.

Q. That was April of 1960?

A. Yes. And, I didn't hear no more from him until I got that notice that he was in the Reformatory for young men in Missouri.

Q. Then your reason for leaving him was for non-support and for

A. Yes, and for abusing my oldest boy.

Q. In what respect?

A. Well he used to slap him around, knock him on the floor with his fist and then he would kick him. He would make him lay in bed all the time and wouldn't allow him to eat.

Q. And that is the reason you left him?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he injure the boy?

A. No, he never injured him that I had to take him to a doctor or anything.

Q. You didn't stand for that?

A. I just couldn't stand him slapping him around and abusing him like that.

Q. How did that effect your health?

A. Well, I was awful run down.

Q. Following that residence there in Coalport, did you move to Houtzdale then?

A. Yes, I moved to Houtzdale with my mother and father.

Q. And you have been here ever since?

A. Yes, then I got a place of my own.

Q. I have some letters here from --

BY EUGENE L. CIMINO, ESQUIRE:

Q. Mrs. Stevens, I now show you a series of four letters and envelopes and ask you to identify them. From whom are these letters?

A. From Stanley, my husband.

Q. To whom are the letters addressed?

A. To myself.

Q. Now I show you the hand writing and the signature on these letters, whose handwriting is that?

A. Stanley's.

Q. You know his handwriting?

A. Yes.

Q. And whose signature is on them?

A. Stanley's.

Q. I show you, likewise, the handwriting on the other three letters, is that his handwriting?

A. Yes.

Q. And are they his signatures on these letters?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, these letters are dated June 16, July 12, September 21 and September 30th and all four of these letters are from your husband?

A. Yes.

Q. And they clearly evidence the fact that your husband was now confined to a penal institution in Jefferson City, a State Penitentiary at Jefferson City, Missouri, and he is now so confined to that institution?

A. Yes.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBITS "C, D, E, & F" are offered as evidence as part of the record of these proceedings.

Myrtle Parsons, being duly sworn according to law, testified as follows:

BY JOHN SCOLLINS, ESQUIRE:

Q. Mrs. Parsons, you are the mother of the Plaintiff, Mrs. Shelba Jean Stevens?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you recall of the visit of your daughter to your home at different intervals? in search of food?

A. Yes.

Q. How often would that occur?

A. Quite often. Then sometimes when they were even in a place of their own, Jean would come to me.

Q. And you and your husband provided for the children as to food, etc.?

A. Yes.

Q. Oh, he came there too?

A. Yes.

Q. Where do you live, Mrs. Parsons?

A. I live at Bellwood.

Q. Is that where they came to?

A. Yes, but they came when we lived in other places too.

Q. Well, where were you living at that time?

A. At Bellwood. They came back from New York and didn't have any place to go or nothing to eat and they came to me.

Q. Where do you live?

A. I live in Bellwood, now.

Q. And, where were you born?

A. I was born at Fallen Timber.

Q. You are the Mother of the Plaintiff?

A. Yes.

Q. When they were in Falconer, ^{New York}, how long did they live there?

A. Well they lived there a little over a year. January they came back.

Q. How did they get along?

A. Well, I guess they - he just wouldn't work. He would work a day and then wouldn't go back on the job.

Q. How long did that last?

A. That lasted a year. Then they went to Blandburg.

Q. And that is where they came to?

A. Yes, they came to Blandburg. They had been in Blandburg before. First they had come down to Bellwood where we was. He didn't have no work and they couldn't get no assistance, well we couldn't either. Then they went down there, that was the end of May.

Q. And you supported your daughter and her children?

A. Yes.

Q. Until they could get on their ~~feet~~ Assistance?

A. Yes.

Q. And, then they got on Assistance and then came back?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he leave there at any time?

A. No.

Q. They stayed together until he was arrested, is that right?

A. That's right.

Q. And he's been under the jurisdiction of the criminal branch of the government ever since?

A. That's right.

Q. Do you know anything about the checks your daughter was talking about?

A. Yes, she came up there lots of times and said they didn't have anything to eat. She said that when the checks would come, he would spend them on things for himself. Instead of eating, we gave them the things what we had, to help them out. Then, she left him and came home. Well, people around there said he just oh never even paid any rent for the place he lived in or anything else - not even a place for her to stay.

Q. How did that effect your daughter? Mentally and Physically?

A. Yes, it did.

Q. I mean in what respect? Did she fail in health?

A. Yes, she failed in health, yes. She had an awful lot of trouble with before the baby was born. She had been in the hospital and had an awful time the whole way through.

Q. And what attributed to her troubles? His behaviour or --

A. Well, I figured it was.

Q. Do you think she was justified in leaving him?

A. I think she was.

ELMER PARSONS, being duly sworn according to law, testified as follows:

BY JOHN SCOLLINS, ESQUIRE:

Q. Mr. Parsons, do you have anything to add to your wife or daughter's

testimony?

A. Just that what they said is true. It was just the way he acted all the time.

Q. Then, you think that was sufficient cause for your daughter's life to become burdensome?

A. Yes. 70, 80 or 90 per cent of the time, they would be hungry.

Q. And, they would come to your place?

A. Yes.

Q. Your daughter and children would come to your place to get something to eat?

A. Yes.

MRS. ROBERT THOMAS, being duly sworn according to law,
testified as follows:

BY JOHN SCOLLINS, ESQUIRE:

Q. You have heard the Plaintiff and her father and mother testify, have you anything to add to their testimony?

A. Well, what they say is true. When they were first married - that was before she had the oldest baby, they were at my place for a week or so. My husband had gotten him a job where he was working. He just worked a half a day and came home. I knew there was something wrong because my husband had got him the job and I knew he wouldn't have told him to go to work if he wasn't sure of him working. So, he just walked off the job and then he expected her to walk - walk! - "hitch-hike" clear back to New York from our house.

Q. While she was pregnant?

A. Yes. Then after the baby was born, he did mistreat him, whipped him harder than a baby should be whipped. Two months later, they came back to our place, they didn't have anything to eat and I said I would get them something to eat and then he drug her all around. He sometimes had a car but most of the times he made her "hitch-hike" to different places. And, they were gone about ten minutes and would come back and she'd ask us to give her some money to buy some milk for the baby, and just things like that that happened.

BY EUGENE L. CIMINO, ESQ. - Master

MRS. SHELBA JEAN STEVENS testified as follows:

Q. Mrs. Stevens, how old are you?

A. 22

Q. And, how old is your husband?

A. He'll be 25 this month.

Q. You're both over 21?

A. Yes.

Q. Mrs. Stevens, your husband is a laborer by occupation?

A. Yes.

Q. And you are a housewife by occupation?

A. Yes.

Q. And, prior to your marriage, what type of work did you do?

A. Just babysit.

Q. Did general housework?

A. Yes.

Q. And as a wife, naturally, you were a housewife, is that correct?

A. Yes.

- Q. Did you ever bring an action for desertion and non-support against your husband, Mrs. Stevens?
- A. No.
- Q. Now in addition to being confined to the Missouri State Penitentiary for a period of two years, Mrs. Stevens, he was also convicted of various crimes in Clearfield County, Pa., is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. As is evidenced by the Plaintiff's Exhibit "F", is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. He was sentenced by the Courts of Clearfield County on November 6, 1956, is that correct?
- A. ~~Yes~~ No.
- Q. Oh, yes, Order of November 6, 1959.
- A. Yes.
- Q. And that was, likewise, for the crime of forgery?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And as a result, he was sentenced to the Allegheny County Workhouse for 14 months?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And then, he was granted a parole, is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And then, on April 15th, 1960, he had broken the terms of his parole and a bench warrant was issued for his re-arrest?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Mrs. Stevens, did he ever try to support you or the family during the course of your marriage?
- A. No, he never did.
- Q. Did he ever have a steady job during the course of your marriage?
- A. No.
- Q. Did he ever display any love or affection toward you as a husband should?
- A. No.
- Q. Did he ever accept the family responsibilities and the duties of a father and parent?
- A. No.
- Q. Did he ever display any love or affection toward the children?
- A. No.
- Q. Did he display any love or affection toward you?
- A. No.
- Q. Did he ever tell you that he hated you and didn't want you and he didn't want your marriage? wondered why he ever married you?
- A. No, but before the first baby was born, I threatened to leave him and he did say that if I left he hoped the baby was born dead.
- Q. And, therefor, he never displayed any true love or affection toward you or the family?
- A. No.
- Q. Never held a steady job?
- A. No.
- Q. And, never tried to properly support you or your family?
- A. No.

Q. And, all during the course of this criminal conduct of your husband, has this been a source of great shame and embarrassment to you?

A. Yes.

Q. And, he persisted in these indignities?

A. Yes.

Q. And, what was his course of conduct towards you, how did he treat you?

A. Well, he never - he hit me a couple of times, but he never beat me real often or anything like that.

Q. Did he often insult you in public?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he embarrass you in front of your friends and your family?

A. Yes.

Q. Mrs. Stevens, this was a source of great shame and embarrassment?

A. Yes.

Q. He never properly provided for you?

A. No.

Q. Never gave you any money?

A. No.

Q. And never tried to hold a job?

A. No.

Q. And, this caused your life to be burdensome and your condition intolerable?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you anything further to add to your testimony?

A. Well, just that a lot of times we would be hungry and he didn't have a car or anything and he would make me and the kids, sometimes I had to even carry the baby and everything else - and had to hitch-hike from Blandburg just to get something to eat.

Q. Now, you were married on January 11th, 1956?

A. Yes.

Q. And, where were you living when you were married?

A. Falconer, New York. We lived in New York until we came to Pa.

Q. And when was that?

A. January of 1957.

Q. You lived there for practically one year?

A. Yes.

Q. Then in January of 1957, you came back to Pennsylvania?

A. Yes.

Q. Then, did you have a home or an apartment or living quarters in New York?

A. Part of the time we lived in an apartment and part of the time with my folks, most of the time with my folks.

Q. Did he always hold a steady job up there?

A. Never.

Q. Did he ever support you up there?

A. No.

Q. How did you live.

A. Just off my folks and friends would help me.

Q. And, because of the children and baby, you weren't able to go out and work?

A. Yes.

Q. Had it not been for the children or the fact that you had to raise the children, you would have gone out and worked and owned you own living?

A. Yes.

Q. But, because of those facts it was impossible?

A. Yes.

Q. Then, when you came back to Pennsylvania in 1957 of January where did you live?

A. We lived first in Blandburg.

Q. And how long did you live in Blandburg? In Cambria County, Pa.

A. Yes, we lived there about two months.

Q. You lived there until about March of 1957?

A. Yes.

Q. And then where did you go?

A. We went to Bellwood?

Q. You moved over to Bellwood in Blair County, Pa. about March of 1957?

A. Yes.

Q. How long did you live there?

A. Oh, it was about two months.

Q. And then, about June of 1957, where did you move to?

A. Well, we moved to Blandburg.

Q. You moved back to Blandburg?

A. Yes.

Q. And how long did you live there?

A. I'm not sure exactly - about four or fivemonths.

Q. Four or five months - and that brings us into September of 1957, then where did you live?

A. Well, we moved back to Bellwood.

Q. Back to Bellwood in Blair County, Pa.?

A. Yes.

Q. And how long did you live there?

A. Well, at different times it was with mom and them - I guess it was for about - till about May of 1958.

Q. You ~~lived~~ lived there until about January of 1958?

A. Yes.

Q. And then where did you go?

A. Then we lived in Blandburg.

Q. Then you moved back to Blandburg in Cambria County?

A. Yes.

Q. And how long did you live there?

A. We lived there about three months.

Q. About three months - then that brings us about to April of 1958 - then where did you go?

A. We then moved to Altoona.

Q. Then you moved to Altoona in Blair County, Pa. in about April of 1958, and how long did you live there?

A. Oh, about four months.

Q. That brings us into about August of 1958, is that correct?
A. September.

Q. About September of 1958?
A. Yes.

Q. Then in September of 1958, where did you go?
A. We moved to Blandburg.

Q. Then you moved back to Blandburg, is that correct?
A. Yes.

Q. How long did you live there?
A. Oh, about four or five month.

Q. That brings us into about January of 1959, is that correct?
Then, where did you live?
A. Well, we moved to Bellwood.

Q. Then, you moved back to Bellwood in Blair County in January 1959 -
how long did you live there?
A. About two or three months.

Q. Until April of 1959, now is that when you separated?
A. No.

Q. Well, where did you live then?
A. We moved to Altoona.

Q. Back to Altoona in April of 1959?
A. Yes.

Q. How long did you live there?
A. Until we broke up.

Q. And when was that?
A. In May.

Q. In May of 1959?
A. Yes.

Q. And that was when you were living in Altoona, Blair Co.?
A. Yes.

Q. And after he was picked up, what did you do?
A. I went home with my folks.

Q. And where were they living?
A. At Blandburg.

Q. There They were living in Blandburg, Cambria Co.?
A. Yes.

Q. And how long did you live with them?
A. Until we went back together again in October Coalport.

Q. About when did you go back together?
A. In December of 1959.

Q. You resumed your marriage relations and lived together as husband
and wife?
A. Yes, until March.

Q. Until March?

A. March of 1960.

Q. At Coalport, Pa.? Clearfield County, Pa.?

A. Yes.

A. Then I left him and went home to my mother and father.

Q. Your life became unbearable and you had to leave?

A. Yes.

Q. In March of 1960?

A. Yes.

Q. How long did you live there?

A. Until we moved to Houtzdale.

Q. When did you move to Houtzdale?

A. About June or July .

Q. About June or July of 1960?

A. Yes.

Q. And, you have been living there ever since?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, after you were compelled to leave your husband, he was convicted of this crime of felony and was sentenced to the Missouri State Penitentiary?

A. Yes.

Q. How many children do you have, Mrs. Stevens?

A. Three.

Q. What are their names?

A. Stanley Stevens, Jr., 4 years old; Timothy Eugene Stevens, 2 years old; Betty Darlene Stevens, 6 months.

Q. And these are all your natural children by your marriage to your husband, Stanley Stevenes?

A/ Yes.

Q. Now, do you have anything further to add to your testimony?

A. I have one child dead between these two oldest ones.

Q. There is nothing else you want to add to your testimony?

A. No.

CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MYRTLE PARSONS
EXAMINATION BY EUGENE L. CIMINO, ESQ.

Q. What is your name?

A. Myrtle Parsons.

Q. And you are the mother of this Plaintiff?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know of any agreement or collusion between these parties to get a divorce?

A. No.

Q. And you have heard the testimony in this case, have you Mrs. Parsons?

A. Yes.

Q. And, everything that has been testified hereto is substantially true and correct?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you anything further to add?

A. No.

- Q. Did he ever display any love or affection toward your daughter?
A. No.
- Q. Did he ever adequately support her or even try to support her?
A. No, he didn't.
- Q. And, he displayed no love or affection toward her or the children?
A. No.
- Q. And, you stated you, likewise, ^{he} not only beat the children but, likewise, beat her?
A. Yes.
- Q. And never had adequate food or any of the necessities of life for her or the children?
A. That's right.
- Q. And never even tried to hold a steady job?
A. No.
- Q. And what monies he would get from relief checks, he spent on himself?
A. Yes.
- Q. Did he drink?
A. Not very often, no.
- Q. He spent them for other purposes - not for you or the children, is that right?
A. Yes.
- Q. Is there anything further you want to add ?
A. One time she come, she didn't have nothing to eat and I was going to go away that evening and I sent them down a quart of milk so they got that down there while she was sleeping and when she got up in the morning - there wasn't a drop of milk left for the baby.
- Q. He had drunk the milk himself?
A. Yes.
- Q. Very selfish?
A. Yes.

CROSS - EXAMINATION OF ELMER PARSONS
EXAMINATION BY EUGENE L. CIMINO, ESQ.

- Q. Mr. Parsons, what is your name?
A. Elmer Parsons.
- Q. Are you the father of this Plaintiff, Mrs. Shelba Jean Stevens?
A. Yes.
- Q. And, do you know of any agreement or collusion between these parties to get a divorce?
A. No.
- Q. And, have you heard the testimony in this case?
A. Yes.
- Q. And, is it substantially true and correct?
A. Yes.
- Q. He never amply provided for her or the family?
A. No.
- Q. Never tried to hold a steady job?
A. No.
- Q. And, what relief checks came in, he spent for himself instead of the family?
A. Yes.

Q. He never displayed any love or affection toward her or treated her properly as a husband should?

A. No.

Q. And, on many occasions, he abused her and the children?

A. Yes.

Q. Both in their home and in public?

A. Yes.

CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MRS. ROBERT THOMAS
EXAMINATION BY EUGENE L. CIMINO, ESQ.

Q. What is your name?

A. Betty Thomas.

Q. Are you related to this Plaintiff?

A. Yes.

Q. How are you related to her?

A. Sister.

Q. And, do you know of any agreement or collusion by these parties in order to obtain a divorce?

A. No.

Q. And, have you heard the testimony in this case?

A. Yes.

Q. Is it substantially true and correct to the best of your knowledge?

A. Yes.

Q. And, did you know the defendant husband, Stahley Stevens?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you know that he didn't amply provide for her and the children?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you know that he never held a steady job?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know whether he ever tried to hold a steady job?

A. No. He only worked just a couple of ~~maxxxx~~ days at a time.

Q. How do you know that?

A. Well, my husband got him a job.

Q. You state your husband got him a job?

A. Yes.

Q. Well, why didn't he hold the job?

A. He didn't want to work, I guess.

Q. He was allergic to work?

A. I guess so.

Q. And, you found that out without any doubt?

A. Yes, certainly.

Q. And, he never amply provided for her or the children?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. And, never worked steadily enough to support her or the family?

A. No.

Q. Never even tried or attempted to support her or the family?

A. No.

Q. And, what relief checks came in from the Welfare, he spent on himself and not the family?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever see him display any love or affection toward his wife or children?

A. No.

Q. Did he ever abuse the children?

A. Yes.

Q. How do you know?

A. Well, he whipped the oldest one.

Q. Did you see him beat the children?

A. Yes.

Q. And abuse them?

A. Yes.

Q. Likewise, his wife?

A. I never saw him hit her, but

Q. Did you ever see him mistreat her? Did he ever embarrass her in public?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. And this was a great source of embarrassment to your sister?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. Now the testimony you have heard here today is substantially true and correct?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you anything further to add?

A. I don't think so. Sometimes if they didn't have a place to stay, he often made her sleep in the car.

Q. That's saving rent that way - just leave them sleep in the car in cold weather?

A. Yes, they didn't have any blankets or anything.

Q. And that was his idea of fulfilling his responsibilities as a father?

A. That's right.

Q. Do you know whether he is in the Army, now?

A. I don't think he is in the Army.

Q. To the best of your recollection, he is now a civilian?

A. Yes.

Q. He was in the Army and he was discharged?

A. He said he was.

Q. But, when he married your sister, he was a civilian?

A. Yes.

Q. So far as you know now, he is confined to a Missouri State Penitentiary?

A. Yes.

Eugene L. Cimino, Esq. - Let the record now be closed, nothing further to add.

The End.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

SHELBA JEAN STEVENS,	:	No. 271 November Term, 1960
Plaintiff	:	
	:	
Vs.	:	IN DIVORCE
	:	
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS,	:	
Defendant	:	

CERTIFICATION OF
STENOGRAPHER

I, Anita P. Wilson, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of testimony taken at hearing in the divorce proceeding of Shelba Jean Stevens vs. Stanley Lewis Stevens, to No. 271 November Term 1960, before Eugene L. Cimino, Esq., at Osceola Mills, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, March 4, 1961, at 1:30 P.M., E.S.T.


Anita P. Wilson - Stenographer

PLAINTIFF EXHIBIT "A"



STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF JOHNSON, } ss.

BE IT REMEMBERED, that at a regular term of the Johnson County Circuit Court, begun and holden at the Court House in the City of Warrensburg, County and State aforesaid, on the Second Monday in February Term, A. D., 1960, the same being the 16th day of said term, before the Honorable William M. Kimberlin, Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit of the State of Missouri.

Present; Martin Richardson, Prosecuting Attorney
William O. Fortney, Sheriff
Jack McCue, Official Stenographer
Natalie Elliott, Circuit Clerk

When and where the following among other proceedings were had and entered of record, to-wit:
the 9th day of May, 1960
the 16th Judicial day of said February term.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JOHNSON COUNTY, MISSOURI
AT WARRENSBURG

STATE OF MISSOURI -----Plaintiff)	
)	NO. 3181
vs)	
)	Forgery
STANLEY L. STEVENS ----- Defendant)	

Now on this day the Prosecuting Attorney appears. The Defendant appears. Information is read to the Defendant charging him with Forgery. Defendant having no attorney nor money with which to employ an attorney, the Court appoints Wm. J. Hensley as attorney to represent and defend the Defendant.

-----oOo-----



STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF JOHNSON, } ss.

I, NATALIE ELLIOTT, Clerk of the Circuit Court within and for the County of Johnson, and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of the judgment and decree rendered in the above entitled cause as fully as the same appears of record, in my office, Book 60 at Page 146.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of this Court. Done at my office in City of Warrensburg, County and State aforesaid, this 13th day of February, A. D., 1961.

Natalie Elliott
Circuit Clerk.
By Helew Burford
Deputy Clerk.



STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF JOHNSON, } ss.

BE IT REMEMBERED, that at a regular term of the Johnson County Circuit Court, begun and holden at the Court House in the City of Warrensburg, County and State aforesaid, on the Second Monday in February Term, A. D., 1960, the same being the 17th day of said term, before the Honorable William M. Kimberlin, Judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit of the State of Missouri.

Present; Martin Richardson, Prosecuting Attorney
Wm. O. Fortney, Sheriff
Jack McCue, Official Stenographer
Natalie Elliott, Circuit Clerk

When and where the following among other proceedings were had and entered of record, to-wit:
the 10th day of May, 1960
the 17th Judicial day of said February term.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JOHNSON COUNTY, MISSOURI, AT WARRENSBURG

STATE OF MISSOURI -----Plaintiff)	
vs)	NO. 3181
)	
STANLEY L. STEVENS -----Defendant)	Forgery

Now on this day the Prosecuting Attorney appears. The Defendant appears in person and by attorney. The Defendant enters a plea of guilty as charged. Allocution granted. The Court fixes Defendant's punishment at two (2) years in the Department of Corrections, State of Missouri and the Defendant is hereby sentenced to serve a term of two (2) years therein.

Now on the 9th day of May, 1960 comes the State of Missouri by the Prosecuting Attorney, and comes also the defendant in proper person in open court, and whereupon the court informed the defendant of his right to counsel and explained wherein the exercise of said right might be of benefit to the defendant and appoints William J. Hensley, an attorney, to act as counsel for the defendant and notifies said counsel that a reasonable time will be allowed in which to prepare the defense. Whereupon, after this defendant has had an opportunity and reasonable time to consult with his said counsel and with a friend and both defendant and his said counsel being present in open court, defendant is duly arraigned and enters a plea of guilty to the charge of FORGERY, a felony, and the court states to the defendant that he has voluntarily entered his plea of guilty to the said charge, and now asks the defendant if he has any legal reason to give why judgment should not be pronounced upon him in accordance with his plea of guilty and the defendant says nothing.

And the court thereupon fixes the punishment of the defendant at imprisonment in an institution to be designated by the Department of Corrections of the State of Missouri in accordance with law for a term of two (2) years and pronounces sentence in accordance therewith.

WHEREFORE, it is by the court considered, ordered, adjudged and decreed that the said defendant shall be confined in the custody of the Department of Corrections of the State of Missouri in an institution or institutions designated by said department in accordance with law for a period of 2 years to commence on the

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss.
COUNTY OF JOHNSON)

Witness my hand as Clerk, and seal of said Court. Done at
office in Warrensburg, Missouri this 10th day of May, 1960.

/s/ Natalie Elliott Clerk.

-----000-----



STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF JOHNSON, } ss.

I, NATALIE ELLIOTT, Clerk of the Circuit Court within and for the County of Johnson, and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of the judgment and decree rendered in the above entitled cause as fully as the same appears of record, in my office, Book 60 at Page 149.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of this Court. Done at my office in City of Warrensburg, County and State aforesaid, this 13th day of February,
A. D., 19 61.

Natalie Elliott
Circuit Clerk.
By Helen Burford
Deputy Clerk.

Box 538
Jefferson City,
Missouri

MISSOURI INTERMEDIATE REFORMATORY Ray F. French
Superintendent

Date JUNE; 16, 1960

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING MAILING AND VISITING PRIVILEGES

1. Inmates may write 2 letters each week. Incoming mail is unlimited. All mail is censored. You are encouraged to write friendly, cheerful, encouraging letters. Correspondence about criminal matters, or with vulgar or obscene language, is not permitted. You may send stamps, money in Post Office or Express Money Order. Do not send currency or personal checks. You may send packages containing smoking needs and toilet articles, and any other items listed in paragraph # 4 below. Please address all mail with: Name, Number, P.O. Box 538, Jeff. City, Mo., and insure all packages.
2. Only 3 visits per month are permitted. Visiting hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. daily, Wednesday through Sunday. Only members of the immediate family will be allowed to visit. Immediate family means: mother, father, brothers and sisters (over 16 yrs. old), and the inmate's wife and his own children. Special passes may be issued by the Superintendent upon special request of other relatives and friends, or finacees. All inmates are searched before and after visits. A parking lot is provided at the main gate, and a shuttle bus service runs to the Visiting Area. The first day you will be eligible to visit will be: June 25, 1960
3. Visitors must remain in the designated area, except when permission to do otherwise is granted. Picnic lunches are encouraged. Do not bring anything in glass bottles. Beverages in paper containers may be purchased at the Canteen. Rest rooms and drinking fountains are provided.
4. Many health and comfort items are available at the Canteen, including smoking needs, toilet articles and double-edged razor blades. No liquid lotions are allowed. Never give the inmate any money. The Visiting Area Officer or Matron will handle all deposits of money. This will be credited to the inmate's account. He will then be issued a coupon book with which he can make his own purchases at the Canteen. You may leave with the officer: plain white handkerchiefs, white T-shirts, shorts, solid black or white socks, pajamas, black low-cut shoes with heels, stamps, ~~radios, record players and recorders~~ and reading material.
5. All visitors--men, women, and children--are subject to search for contraband, which may include: knives, firearms, narcotics, medicines, food-stuffs (not to be eaten at lunchtime), maps and cameras. Crime and True Romance magazines, pin-up-type pictures, clippings of a sensational nature, or any other publication offensive to good taste, will not be permitted.
6. Visitors will best help the inmates by encouraging them to work cheerfully, obey all rules and regulations of the institution, and to take advantage of all opportunities offered. The Superintendent and other members of his staff are always glad to discuss any matter with any visitor. The institution's sole interest is in the rehabilitation of the young men entrusted to its care.

Signed, Ray F. French

Ray F. French, Superintendent

Form #5
Box 538
Jefferson City, Mo.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
MISSOURI INTERMEDIATE REFORMATORY

Ray F. French
Superintendent

DATE: June 16, 1960

TO: Mrs. Jean Stevens

Gen. Del.

Coal Port, Penna.

% Elmer Parsons

As an immediate relative, you are advised that on June 16, 1960,

Stanley Stevens MIR # 00711-R, was admitted here. You probably have a number of questions. This letter may answer some of them. The enclosed RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING MAILING AND VISITING PRIVILEGES will help you. If you have any questions, feel free to write me, or any member of my staff.

He is now in our Reception and Orientation Unit. He will remain there approximately fourteen (14) days. He will be in medical quarantine, and will receive examinations and immunizations. He will be interviewed, take some psychological tests, hear a number of lectures, learn the rules and regulations, be issued his clothing, meet members of the staff, tour the institution, attend the Chapel Service of his faith, have regular recreational and sports periods, have parole explained to him, learn about opportunities for education and vocational training, and do many other things so that he may understand the institution and we may come to know him better. Anything you may wish to write us about him might be helpful to us.

I know you will want to write him. He is allowed to write two (2) letters each week. He must provide his own stamps. He may receive as much mail as is sent him. It is important that he receive encouraging letters from his family. Try to send him some money; he can use about \$1.00 per week to spend in the Canteen. Also, if possible, furnish him with black oxfords. You should address his mail this way:

Name Stanley Stevens

No. 00711-R

P. O. Box 538

Jefferson City, Missouri

After he has finished his allotted time, he may have his first visit. Be sure to read the enclosed rules carefully.

After he has been in the Reception and Orientation Unit approximately fourteen (14) days, he will be placed on a training program of work and instruction, such as grade school, high school, woodworking, plumbing, electrical, machine shop, welding, laundry, food preparation horticulture, farming, heavy equipment, dairy, clerical, and other vocational training programs. He will be moved to a dormitory of his own age group.

Every effort will be made to assist him to re-think his behavior, and to prepare himself to return to free society. Most of it depends on him, of course. Part of it depends on you. I am confident you will help us help him to help himself.

Sincerely,

Ray F. French

Ray F. French, Superintendent

INTERMEDIATE REFORMATORY FOR YOUNG MEN

Jefferson City, Missouri

Box 538

June 16, 1960

To Jean Stevens From Stanley L. Stevens Reg. No. 00711-R
Relationship Wife No. Letter this week
Street Ben Del City Coalport State Penna

Inmates must strictly comply with the following: All inmates may write two letters each week. Inmates in the honor set up may write three letters a week. The following may be received by mail: tobacco, pipes, black shoes, socks, white handkerchiefs, tooth paste, tooth brushes, underwear, stamps, shaving cream, safety razor and blades, and ~~razors~~. All other items are prohibited. The reward for good conduct is early release. Inmates should be encouraged to be good. All outgoing letters must be written on this stationery and not to exceed one sheet of paper. DO NOT SEND MONEY IN ANY OTHER FORM THAN POSTOFFICE OR EXPRESS MONEY ORDER AND MADE PAYABLE TO THE INMATE. Each inmate is allowed three visits each calendar month. Visiting room hours are from 9:00 A. M. to 1:00 P. M. This institution requests the cooperation of all persons interested in the welfare of its inmates.

Dear Jean + family.

Just a few lines to say hi and hope

this finds you and the children in the best of health. this finds you and the children in the best of health. as for me I am fine. how you all getting along boy the weather is sure nice down here. Jean please write me a letter and let me know how the children are and send me one of there pictures please let me know how they are once in a while. I will drop a few lines when ever I can. how the kids for me I wish you all the luck in the world with them. Jean let me know when the baby comes please. well I won't say to much now but will write later again they treat you pritty nice here its just like being in the army again. if you want our marriage licence for any thing let me know and I will send them to you well I will close for now with all my love to you, Jr. + tin for you loving husband
Stanley

P.S. address is at top write soon.

To Jean Stevens From Stanley Stevens Reg. No. 00711-R
Relationship Wife Dorm No. 1-A No. _____ Letters this week _____
Street 611 Mary St. Assignment Dairy farm truck driver
City & State Houtydale Penna Date _____

Inmates must strictly comply with the following: All inmates may write two letters a week. The following may be received by mail: tobacco, pipes, black oxford shoes, socks, white handkerchiefs, tooth paste, tooth brushes, underwear, stamps, shaving cream, safety razor and double edge blades. All other items are prohibited. The reward for good conduct is early release. Inmates should be encouraged to be good. All outgoing letters must be written on this stationery and not to exceed one sheet of paper. DO NOT SEND MONEY IN ANY OTHER FORM THAN POSTOFFICE OR EXPRESS MONEY ORDER, AND MADE PAYABLE TO THE INMATE. Each inmate is allowed three visits each calendar month. Visiting room hours are from 9:00 a. m. to 1:00 p. m. Wednesday through Sunday. No one under 16 years of age allowed to visit except inmate's own children. This institution requests the cooperation of all persons interested in the welfare of its inmates.

Jean,

Just a few lines to say I got your letter I am glad you will get a divorce Jean I am in no way of helping you pay for it Donna told me. before I came in if I wanted it she would pay for everything but its O.K. with me. Maybe some day you will find some body you want then you will have to get one. I am just a happy with out it would you send me a picture of the kids so I can keep them if you want some of them pictures of Jr. I will send them We are moving to Warrensburg Mo when I get home. I will send you my address later and if you ever need any thing let me know. No Jean I won't help you pay for any divorce because your the one that broke up the home in the first place. the kids will know some day, because I will be back.
(over)

believe me I will. well I will share
with love to the kids.

Stan

Send me a picture
of the little girl will
you.

Thank you

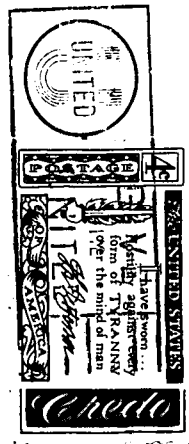
00711-R

After 5 Days Return To

Box 538

Jefferson City, Missouri

Planchette Exhibit D



Mr Jean Stevens
611 Mary St.
Hendrydale
Penn.

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT "F"

COMMONWEALTH	:	Feloniously Issuing Worthless
	:	Checks
VS.	:	ROBERT A. RICE, STATE POLICE
	:	May 15, 1959 - Manuscript Filed
STANLEY LEWIS STEVENS	:	May 25, 1959 Defendant
Box 61, Blandburg, Pa.	:	Arraigned Pleads Guilty
	:	

UTTERING and passing 12 worthless checks and it appearing the balance now due, after return of new merchandise so obtained is \$91.85 and it further appearing other checks not subject of the prosecution, total \$95.25: The Sentence of the Court is that the Defendant pay a fine of \$50.00 and costs of prosecution and undergo imprisonment in the Allegheny County Workhouse for a period of 14 months. Sentence to begin as of May 14, 1959.

IF the fine and costs are paid and restitution for the checks contained in this prosecution and those not i the prosecution but herein admitted arepaid or satisfactory arrangement made for payment of same, a parole will be considered after 90 days.

STAND COMMITTED - copy certified to Sheriff. Order November 6, 1959, the Defendant having been sentenced to the Allegheny County Workhouse for a period of 14 months, beginning as of May 14, 1959, and Defendant having now made satisfactory efforts to pay the restitution, the Superintendent of the Allegheny County Workhouse is hereby authorized to release said Stanley Lewis Stevens from custody. Said Defendant to remain on parole, however, until payment of restitution and costs has been satisfactorily adjusted within the time of the original sentence of 14 months.

April 15, 1960 - Bench Warrant awarded and issued to theSheriff.

1. Lodico Motors - \$165.00	
2. Taylor Sunoco Station - \$3.02	December 7, 1959 - released
3. East End Service Station - \$4.30	from Blair County.
4. Clfd. Sporting Goods Store - \$20.00	Returned to Coalport, Pa.
5. C.f.d. Sporting Goods Store - \$28.95	March of 1960.
6. McClure's Boot Shop - \$15.00	Lockport, N. Y.
7. Clfd. Quaker Market - \$15.00	Bellwood, Pa.
8. Clfd. A & P Super Market - \$25.00	
9. Brody's Clothing Store - \$15.00	
10. Davidson's Clothing Store - \$16.00	
11. Broberg Gulf Service - \$4.40	
12. Richardson Sports Store - \$13.30	

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

"E"

INTERMEDIATE REFORMATORY FOR YOUNG MEN

Post Office Box 538

Jefferson City, Missouri

To Jeann Stevens From Stanley Stevens Reg. No. 00711-R
 Relationship Wife Dorm No. 1-A No. _____ Letters this week _____
 Street 611 Main St. Assignment Chairy barn
 City & State Honolulu, P. H. Date Nov. 11/60

Inmates must strictly comply with the following: All inmates may write two letters a week. The following may be received by mail: tobacco, pipes, black oxford shoes, socks, white handkerchiefs, tooth paste, tooth brushes, underwear, stamps, shaving cream, safety razor and double edge blades. All other items are prohibited. The reward for good conduct is early release. Inmates should be encouraged to be good. All outgoing letters must be written on this stationary and not to exceed one sheet of paper. DO NOT SEND MONEY IN ANY OTHER FORM THAN POSTOFFICE OR EXPRESS MONEY ORDER, AND MADE PAYABLE TO THE INMATE. Each inmate is allowed three visits each calendar month. Visiting room hours are from 9:00 a. m. to 1:00 p. m. Wednesday through Sunday. No one under 16 years of age allowed to visit except inmate's own children. This institution requests the cooperation of all persons interested in the welfare of its inmates.

Dear Jeann & Kids
 just a few lines to say I'm and
 hope this letter finds you all in the best of health
 as for me I am doing fine. Jeann Mrs. French
 called me up today and she read me a letter
 you wrote to her. Jeann I am writing the Welfare
 a letter. I am telling them all about that I came
 back to Pinn. after you and the children I had a good
 job and home I am sending them addresses for
 proof of what I say. and as far as the marriage
 license go I am keeping them till I get home or
 know what you're going to do. I ask you to write me
 so I would know how the kids are and you won't even
 do that. I have met a lot of nice people down here
 in Warrensburg Sheriff Fortney said I could get
 my job back I received a letter from Mr. & Mrs
 Fortney today I all so have a very nice home down
 in Warrensburg so if you want to write OK, but if
 not that's OK. Jeann I gave you a chance so the
 rest is up to you. what ever you want to do it's
 OK with me. if the Welfare wants to know any thing
 (over)

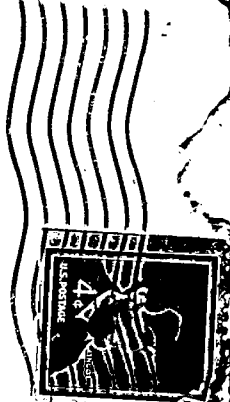
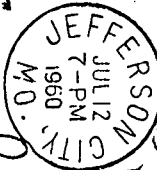
2-11
tell them to write to Mrs. French she's my case
worker. well I guess that all unless I hear from
you real soon, its all up to you now I will
wait for a few days to see if I hear from you and
if now I shall write the Welfore well write and
Good luck you all have my love I kiss the kids
for me, well I will close for now write soon its
up to you what ever you do its O.K. with me.
I don't worry anymore. Love as ever

(Write soon)
I will see about the marriage license Stanley.
P.S.

Jeun we could I just
as well had a good home as not
but you have to be able to take care of
a home also, not let one do it all. I have
guined a lot of weight its a very nice place
here your not locked up or any thing its just
like the Army was. your over out door with
your visitors have picnics and eat together
I hope to get on next week Mr. & Mrs.
School are coming down. Well write + love
Stan

Plaintiff's Exhibit F

0071/R
After 5 Days Return To
Box 538
Jefferson City, Missouri



Mrs. Jean Stevens,
611 Mary St.,
Houtysdale Pennsylvania



Department of Corrections

INTERMEDIATE REFORMATORY
RAY F. FRENCH, SUPERINTENDENT
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

11 July, 1960

Mrs. Jean Stevens:
611 Mary St.
Houtzdale, Pennsylvania

RE: STEVENS, Stanley
W-00711-R

Dear Mrs. Stevens:

I talked with your husband this morning and he told me he does not want to send the marriage certificate to you. He says he hasn't heard from you, although he has written several letters to you since he has been here.

I suggest you write to your husband and tell him your plans for the future and whether or not they include him.

If I can be of further service to you, please feel free to write to me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ray F. French, c.w.

Mrs. Ray F. French
Caseworker

cc: Inmate file

INTERMEDIATE REFORMATORY FOR YOUNG MEN
RAY F. FRENCH, SUPERINTENDENT
P. O. BOX 538, JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

Mrs. Jean Stevens

611 Mary St.

Houtzdale, Pennsylvania



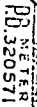
0110

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~
~~DATE 10/10/01 BY 60322 UCBAW~~
~~EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

~~Gen. Del.~~

~~% Wilmer Parsons~~

~~% Elmer Parsons~~

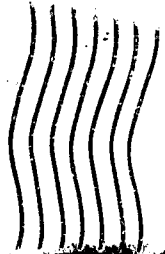


After 5 Days Return To

Box 538

Jefferson City, Missouri

Charles E. Burt



Mr Jean Steene

611 May St.

Stratford

Pennsylvania

