

Jefferson County Circuit Court
Case Files - Civil
October 1858, No. 7

EOFF,amina

vs

EOFF, Samuel P

Maintenance

Dunkennes; non-support

Box

40

Folio

66

Jemima Coff Plaintiff

vs

Samuel P Coff Defendant

} In the Circuit Court
of Jefferson County
Missouri

The plaintiff states that she and defendant were married many years ago & have resided in Jefferson County Missouri for many years before the commencement of this suit. For several years before this time defendant has taken to hard drinking and intoxication, during which time, he is very abusive and quarrelsome, Cursing & swearing, calling plaintiff a thief, whore and liar and using such and similar language before the small children of the family as to afford an immoral tendency of their raising & create a contemptible opinion of plaintiff. By which her maternal influence over her small children is lessened so much that it is impossible to instill in their minds, a proper training to become good citizens. Plaintiff charges that defendant has been addicted to habitual drunkenness for the space of two years, that his conduct has become so violent and threatening, that for fear of bodily harm, she was compelled to leave their home and to find a home at another place in the month of April last. That defendant in consequence of his drinking, neglected to provide for plaintiff for a long time in consequence of which plaintiff has gone to families and worked for provisions for herself & family.

Plaintiff has now under her charge four small children, the eldest of which is twelve years & the youngest of which is six years of age, that she has to provide for these

children by her own exertions.

Defendant owns one yoke of oxen, two heifers, one cow and other personal property all of about the value of two hundred dollars and owns a piece of land about two hundred and eighty acres as she is informed & believes.

A part of the personal property was paid for by the earnings of the plaintiff at daily work.

Plaintiff prays the Court for an order on defendant for the maintenance and support of plaintiff and their children by their marriage aforesaid, out of his property, for such time as the nature and the circumstances of the parties shall require and to compel defendant to give security for such maintenance and for such further orders touching the same as shall be just.

J. A. Deal Atty
for Petitioner

State of Missouri
County of Jefferson } ss

This 26th day of May 1858
before the undersigned clerk of the circuit
Court of said County came Lemima Coff who
being sworn states on oath that the foregoing
petition & the matters therein stated
she believes to be true her

Subscribed & sworn to } Lemima X Coff
before me the 26 day of } Mark
May 1858

C. J. Honey Clerk.
By J. P. Heiser.

Lawrence Coff

as

James J Coff

Petition for maintenance
of Mary & children

Filed May 27th 1858
Clara B. Honey

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, SS.

The State of Missouri.

To the Sheriff of the County of Jefferson--Greeting:

We command you, that you summon Samuel P
Coff

if he be found in your County, that he do and appear before the Hon. Judge of our Circuit Court, on the first day of the next term thereof, to be begun and held at the town of Hillsboro, within and for the County of Jefferson, on the fourth Monday of October next, then and there to answer unto Jemima Coff

upon her original petition, a copy whereof is herunto annexed and accompanies this writ—and have you then there this writ.

Elias J. Honey
Witness, THO. C. FLETCHER, Clerk of our said Circuit Court, with the seal thereof hereto affixed, at office, in Hillsboro, this Eighteenth day of June A. D. 1858

Elias J. Honey

CLERK CIRCUIT COURT.

I Executed the within writ at the County of Jefferson
on on the Twenty Eighth day of July 1858 by delivering
to Samuel P Coff a true copy of the within writ
and the annexed petition (as furnished by the Clerk)
Augustine Wiley Sheriff

No 7
2938
To Jefferson Circuit Court
October Term 1858

Jemima Coff
vs } Summons

Samuel P Coff

Sheriff fees \$1.00

Filed July 8th 1858

Chas J Hargy

Assessed

50
25
120
50
100
3.95