

Document 5-C

Of the Honorable Term of the Circuit Court  
of Sangamon County A.D. 1853.  
In Chancery.

Your orator Syrus Waddell, would most respectfully shew unto your Honor that on or about the first of June A.D. 1847, he was intromarried to one Rebecca Adams, now Rebecca Waddell and which said marriage was in Sangamon County and State of Illinois. Your orator would further shew that he went a trip or tour to California in 1851, and returned about the first of Sept. 1853, and that said trip was with the consent of said Rebecca - that your orator left said Rebecca enough to support well herself and two children. Your orator would shew that since he has returned home he has been informed that said Rebecca has committed adultery with William Miller and others, and would believe the same to be true - that he your orator has never had communication with said Rebecca since his return from California - that the same charge of adultery or fornication has been told your orator by various persons of unimpeached truth and veracity.

Your orator would shew that he has had of said Rebecca Waddell ~~two~~ children one Jane Waddell about six years of age, and Francis Waddell, age about four years.

Therefore your orator prays a division and dissolution of the marriage Contract with said Rebecca and for a decree allowing your orator the said children

Prays for the said Rebecca Waddell to be made defendant - that the People's writ of subpoena be issued and that said Rebecca be compelled to answer this bill and for such other relief as may or shall be met or just in the premises and as in duty bound your orator will ever pray &c.

Syrus Waddell by  
Simeon Herndon. Atty

Autograph Document Signed, William H. Herndon, Bill for Divorce, November 1853, *Waddell v. Waddell*, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois.