

William Sloan                      Petitioner

Catherine Sloan                Respondent

John Davis (alias Bannister)   Co-Respondents

Robert Williamson               Co-Respondents

Petition for dissolution of Marriage, filed 1 May 1873.

In the Divorce Court, Western Australia

To the Judge of Her Majesty's Court for Divorce and Matrimonial causes.

The first day of May 1873.

The Petition of William Sloan of the City of Perth in the Colony of Western Australia Licensed publican.

Sheweth.

1. That your Petitioner was on the twenty ninth day of December One thousand eight hundred and fifty eight lawfully married to Catherine Sloan then Catherine Gibbings Spinster.
2. That after his said marriage your Petitioner lived and cohabited with his said wife at Perth aforesaid and that your petitioner and his said wife had issue of their said marriage, six children, To wit Hugh Henry Sloan now the age of fourteen years, William George Sloan now the age of twelve years, Thomas John Sloan now the age of ten years, Henry Sloan now the age of eight years, Louisa Sloan now the age of six years and Annie Sloan now the age of three years.
3. That on Sunday the twenty fourth day of November One thousand eight hundred and seventy two and on other days between that day and the thirtieth day of April One thousand eight hundred and seventy three Catherine Sloan committed adultery with John David alias Bannister.
4. That from the month of November One thousand eight hundred and seventy two until the month of April One thousand eight hundred and seventy three the said Catherine Sloan frequently visited the said John Davis alias Bannister at Perth aforesaid and on divers of such occasions committed adultery with the said John Davis alias Bannister.
5. That on the twenty sixth day of March One thousand eight hundred and seventy three and on other days between that day and the thirtieth day of April One thousand eight hundred and seventy three the said Catherine Sloan committed adultery with Robert Williamson.
6. That from the month of March One thousand eight hundred and seventy three until the month of April One thousand eight hundred and seventy three the said Catherine Sloan frequently visited the said Robert Williamson at Perth aforesaid and on divers of such occasions committed adultery with the said Robert Williamson.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays

That his marriage with the said Catherine Sloan may be dissolved on the grounds that his said wife has since the celebration thereof been guilty of Adultery

And that your Petitioner may have such further and other relief in the premises as your Honor may seem meet.

William Sloan

Affidavit in support of Petition, filed 1 May 1873. Western Australia

In Her Majesty's Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes.

In the matter of the petition of William Sloan praying a Divorce against Catherine Sloan his wife.

I William Sloan of the City of Perth in the Colony of Western Australia Licensed Publican the petition in this matter make oath and say That so much of the said petition as relates to my own acts and deeds is true and so much thereof do relate to the acts and deeds of any other person I believe to be true And upon my Oath I verify the said petition in all Respects so far as I am able to do so And I further make Oath and say that no collusion or connivance exists between me and my said wife.

Sworn at Perth aforesaid this first day of May One thousand eight hundred and seventy three.

Before me L.S.Leake

William Sloan

Affidavit verifying the answer of the Respondent, filed 14 June 1873.

In the Divorce Court Western Australia

In Her Majesty's Court for Divorce and Matrimonial causes.

William Sloan                      Petitioner

Catherine Sloan                  Respondent

John Davis (alias Bannister)   Co-Respondents

Robert Williamson               Co-Respondents

I Catherine Sloan of Perth in the Colony of Western Australia the above named Respondent and lawful wife of the above named Petitioner make oath and say as follows.

1. William Sloan the petitioner condoned my adultery with John Davis alias Bannister and Robert Williamson respectively, if any.
2. That William Sloan the petitioner in or about the year One thousand eight hundred and sixty one formed an illicit connexion with one Margaret Stone and frequently visited the said Margaret Stone at Perth aforesaid and as I verily believe on divers occasions committed adultery with the said Margaret Stone at Perth aforesaid the precise dates of which adultery with the said Margaret Stone are unknown to me this deponent.
3. That, I verily believe on divers occasions in or about the month of April, May and June in the year One thousand eight hundred and sixty five the petitioner at the Commercial Hotel at Perth aforesaid committed adultery with Emma Boddington who was then hiring in the service of the Petitioner and ne this deponent at the Commercial Hotel aforesaid as Nursemaid.
4. That to the best of my belief during the months of July, August, September and October in the year One thousand eight hundred and sixty five the said petitioner frequently visited the said Emma Boddington at Perth aforesaid at the residence of her father Thomas Boddington and elsewhere at Perth aforesaid and on divers of such occasions as I verily believe committed adultery with the said Emma Boddington.
5. That on Tuesday in the latter end of March One thousand eight hundred and seventy three and on other days as I verily believe in the same month the Petitioner at his residence at Perth aforesaid committed adultery with Black Annie an aboriginal native woman and on the same day at the same place the Petitioner beat me this deponent with his fists and struck me violently in the ribs causing me much pain and forcibly ejected me from his house.
6. There is no collusion no connivance between myself and the Petitioner. C Sloan.

Sworn at Perth aforesaid this 13th day of June 1873 before me L.S. Leake.

In the Divorce Court Western Australia

In Her Majesty's Court for Divorce and Matrimonial causes.

The Fourteenth day of June 1873.

William Sloan                      Petitioner

Catherine Sloan                  Respondent

John Davis (alias Bannister)   Co-Respondents

Robert Williamson               Co-Respondents

The Respondent by Septimus Burt her Proctor in answer to the petition filed in this cause saith

1. That she denies she committed adultery with John David alias Bannister as set forth in the said petition.
2. That she denies she committed adultery with Robert Williamson as set forth in the said Petition.
3. That the petitioner condoned the said adultery with the said John David alias Bannister and the said Robert Williamson respectively (if any)
4. Respondent further saith that the said Petitioner in or about the year One thousand eight hundred and sixty one formed an illicit connection with one Margaret Stone and frequently visited the said Margaret Stone at Perth aforesaid and on divers occasions committed adultery with the said Margaret Stone at Perth aforesaid the precise dates of which said adultery with the said Margaret Stone are unknown to the Respondent.
3. That on divers occasions in or about the month of April, May and June in the year One thousand eight hundred and sixty five the Petitioner at the Commercial Hotel at Perth aforesaid committed adultery with Emma Boddington who was then hiring in the service of the petitioner and ne this deponent at the Commercial Hotel aforesaid as Nursemaid.
4. That during the months of July, August, September and October in the year One thousand eight hundred and sixty five the said Petitioner frequently visited the said Emma Boddington at Perth aforesaid at the residence of her father Thomas Boddington and elsewhere at Perth aforesaid and on divers of such occasions committed adultery with the said Emma Boddington.
5. That on Tuesday in the latter end of March One thousand eight hundred and seventy three and on other days in the same month the Petitioner at his residence at Perth aforesaid committed adultery with Black Annie an aboriginal native woman and on the same day at the same place the Petitioner beat me this deponent with his fists and struck me violently in the ribs causing me much pain and forcibly ejected me from his house.

Wherefore this Respondent humbly prays That Your Honor will be pleased to reject the Prayer of the said Petition and device &c.

The divorce does not seem to have been granted.

Reference LDS film 1686264, images 277 to 285