

Harriet J. your  
Mrs

William J. your  
—

Mr Ogden  
on Petition for  
divorce

Subscribed  
—

Referred to Com.  
on Judiciary  
Feb 1. 1841

To the Honorable the Council and House  
of Representatives of the Legislature of Wisconsin  
The Humble Petition of  
Mariet Tyrer of the County of Iowa and Territory  
of Wisconsin Respectfully sheweth to your Honorable  
bodies that that her maiden name is Mariet Blair  
That she was about the 1st of September 1836 in the  
County of Iowa married to one William Tyrer that  
she was at the time of her marriage only about  
thirteen years of age and was induced by the  
representations of the said William Tyrer and the  
persuasion of her friends to consummate the said  
marriage. Your Petitioner would further represent  
that she was induced to believe by the representa-  
tions of the said William Tyrer that he was a  
man of considerable property and of industrious  
habits whereas your Petitioner would represent the  
fact to be that the said Tyrer is and was at  
the time of their marriage destitute of <sup>disposition or</sup> the means  
comfortably to support a wife and further that  
his habits are so indolent that she was frequently  
by while with him for some time destitute of the  
means of subsistence. Your Petitioner would fur-  
ther represent that the treatment of the said Tyrer  
was at all times harsh and unkind so much  
so as to render the situation of your Petitioner ex-  
ceedingly unhappy and distressing. Your Petitioner  
would further represent that the said Tyrer is of  
a suspicious and exceedingly jealous disposition on  
many occasions insulting in the most wanton and  
unfeeling manner the delicacy of your Petitioner  
with charges as insulting as they were ground-  
less and untrue and it has appeared to have  
been the disposition of the said Tyrer at all times  
(either from a consciousness of having deceived  
your Petitioner into the marriage contract  
or for some other reason to your Petitioner un-  
known) to harass and render & distressing

as possible the situation of your Petitioner - in tender  
consideration whereof - and whereas there is no pro-  
vision in the statute which authorises the courts  
to grant divorces in cases of this kind - where art  
and deception has been practised to procure  
the marriage - and in consideration of the age of  
your Petitioner at the time of her marriage - which con-  
sidered her incapable of properly discerning in  
what now appears to be a contract so intimately  
connected with her happiness - she would humbly  
pray - that the bond of matrimony hitherto ex-  
isting between herself and the said William Your  
may hereafter be forever dissolved - and this your  
Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray -  
she would represent her age now in <sup>eighteen</sup> ~~eighteen~~  
years - and William Your - about thirty -

Harriet Your  
mark

Harriet Your whose name appears to the  
forgoing petition being duly sworn deposes and says  
that the facts therein set forth as stated upon her own  
knowledge are true and those stated upon the in-  
formation of others she believes to be true - and  
further saith not -

Harriet Your  
mark

Subscribed and sworn to  
before me this 7<sup>th</sup> of Decr 1810  
Rob<sup>t</sup> Dougherty Justice of the Peace

Mr William Byrnes

Sir

you will please take notice  
that on ~~Thursday~~ 17<sup>th</sup> day of December  
all who at my office in the town of Murray  
Point I shall produce to take the depositions  
of Henry Leodys - Preston James <sup>Alexander</sup> ~~Blair~~  
~~Blair~~ and others to be read in evidence  
before the Legislature in support of the peti-  
tion for a divorce of Harriet Byrnes - which  
where you may attend if you are so dis-  
posed to cross examine -  
Dec 9<sup>th</sup> - 1840 Robt. Douglas Justice of the peace

copy of notice ser-  
ved on William Tyrin  
— n —

Territory of Wisconsin }  
County of Iowa }

Alexander Blair

being duly sworn doth depose and say  
that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 1840

tho- I served a <sup>copy</sup> of the within  
notice on William Tyrin

Alexander Blair

Subscribed & Sworn to before

me this 12<sup>th</sup> day of Dec 1840

Rob<sup>t</sup> Dougherty Justice of the Peace

Mariet Tyron  
ms  
William Tyron

The Depositions of John James <sup>et al</sup> taken  
on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December A.D. 1840 - according to the  
attached notice served on William Tyron the Defen-  
dant - as appears by the affidavit of Alonzo  
Blair - present at the examination. Mariet  
Tyron by her Solicitor W. H. Banks - William  
Tyron in proper person - The said Deposi-  
tion to be read in Evidence in support of the  
petition for a Divorce of Mariet Tyron - to be  
presented to the Legislature of Wisconsin Terri-  
tory at its present session -

John James being duly sworn  
deposes and says - in answer to - Subjunct  
1<sup>st</sup> Interrogatory

Are you acquainted the pursu-  
tance of the said Affidavit and Deposition - to this  
Bill - ?

Answer - I am

Int 2 - Have you Read the Bill of Complaint or  
Petition of Mariet Tyron Petitioner - if so state  
your knowledge of the charges and allega-  
tions therein set forth ?

Answer - I have read the Petition of Mariet  
Tyron - and state that - I knew Mariet Tyron  
thru Mariet Blair, previous to her Marriage to  
William Tyron - I considered her at the time  
of the Marriage but a child - not more I  
should suppose than thirteen or fourteen years  
of age - The circumstances of Wm Tyron were so  
far as they came to my knowledge - I do  
not know what they were at the time of his mar-  
riage -

Subscribed & sworn to  
before me this 19<sup>th</sup> of Dec 1840  
Robt. Dougherty Justice of the Peace

John James

The deposition of - Preston James  
Preston James - being duly sworn deposes  
and says - in answer to subjoined interrogatories  
Ques 1

are you acquainted with the Petition  
of Harriet Tyrer in this suit of To state?

Ans 1 - I am

Have you read the Petition of Harriet Tyrer  
if so state your knowledge as to the charges  
and allegations therein contained?

I have read the Petition of Harriet Tyrer - I was  
not acquainted with either of the parties till some  
time after the marriage - I should have supposed  
at the time I first saw the Petitioner that she  
was not more than fifteen years of age - as to  
the habits of the said William Tyrer - I lived  
in the same neighbourhood with him for  
some time - and saw him work but very little  
so little that I was astonished - and wondered  
how a man who depended upon his labour  
for the support of his family - could live - and  
maintain himself - with so little labour - I was  
frequently at the house of William Tyrer - who ap-  
peared to be in very indigent circumstances - I  
was there twice when it appeared they were des-  
titute entirely of meat - I would say from my  
knowledge of the parties that they are perfectly  
unsuited in feelings and dispositions and not  
calculated to lead a life of contentment -  
sworn to and subscribed }  
before me this 14<sup>th</sup> of Dec 1840 } Preston James  
Robt. Dougherty Justice of the peace

The Deposition of Alexander Blair  
Alexander Blair being duly sworn doth  
depose and say - as follows

Ques 1<sup>st</sup> Are you acquainted with the Petitioner and  
Superdant - (to wit) Hurrit Tyrer - & William  
Tyrer?

Ans to Ques 1.

I am

Ques 2 Have you read the Petition of Hurrit-  
Tyrer or do state your knowledge of the facts  
and allegations therein contained?

Answer to Ques 2 -

I have read the Petition - as to  
the age of the Petitioner she was at the time  
of her marriage to the said William Tyrer  
<sup>less than forty years of age</sup> William Tyrer represented himself previous  
to his marriage to be a man of considerable  
property - worth some two or three thousand dollars -  
I would say from my knowledge of the  
man of the said Tyrer - that he was not worth  
a third of what he represented himself to be -  
I have had an opportunity of knowing the said  
Tyrer & abt - and would pronounce him  
an idle indolent man - he appeared to be  
a great part of his time unemployed - rising  
very late and lounging about the house - long  
after he should have been at work - ~~officers~~  
I frequently found his family destitute of the  
necessaries of life - His wife exposing herself to  
the inclemencies of the weather to borrow - ~~and~~  
such articles of food as were necessary - for subsi-  
stance - His manners towards her and his  
treatment of her was exceedingly cold and unfeeling  
appearing to have or to feel no sympathy for her  
wants or sufferings - I would say from my knowledge  
of the parties that they are entirely dissimilar in prin-  
ciple & disposition - and no way calculated to

be happy or contented -

Alexander Blair

Subscribed & Sworn to before  
me this 17<sup>th</sup> of Dec 1840  
Robt. Dougherty Justice of the Peace

Territory of Wisconsin  
County of Iowa

I Robert Dougherty a  
Justice of the Peace in and for the said County  
do hereby certify that at the request of Harriet  
Gyver on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December A.D. 1840 I pro-  
ceeded to take the depositions of John James  
Preston James - and Alexander Blair - to be  
read in evidence before the Legislature of Wisconsin  
in support of the Petition for a divorce of Harriet  
Gyver Petitioner - I do further certify that upon  
the taking of the depositions to which this is at-  
tached William Gyver the Defendant was pres-  
ent in his proper person - and had a full op-  
portunity of Examining the witnesses - I do further  
certify that the depositions were written by Wm. H.  
Banks under my direction and at my spe-  
cial request - In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my  
hand this 17<sup>th</sup> day of Dec. A.D. 1840.

Robt. Dougherty  
Justice of the Peace