

*In the High Court of Justice  
Probate, Divorce and  
Admiralty Division  
(Divorce.)*

*4408  
Middlecoat M. H.*

*— vi. —*

*Middlecoat F.*

*Petition  
— for —  
Judicial Separation*

*F. 14  
2/14*

*10/*

FILED 9 JUN 1891

*14/10*

*Arthur Newton & Co  
24 Great Marlborough Street  
Regent Street*

*W.  
Solicitors for the Petitioner*

In the High Court of Justice  
Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division  
(Divorce)

To the Right Honorable the President of the  
Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division of  
Her Majesty's High Court of Justice

The 9<sup>th</sup> day of June. A. D. 1891.

The humble Petition of Mary Henrietta  
Middlecoat of 1112 Evening Road, Stoke  
Newington in the County of Middlesex the  
lawful Wife of Francis Middlecoat a  
retired Colonel in the Madras Staff Corps

Sheweth

1. That your Petitioner (then Mary Henrietta  
Locke Spinster) was on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January  
1866 lawfully married to the said Francis  
Middlecoat at Saint Georges Cathedral Madras, India
2. That after her said Marriage your Petitioner lived  
and cohabited with the said Francis Middlecoat  
at Raipore in the Madras Presidency of India  
and at Rangoon, at Bangalore, and other places  
and that your Petitioner and her said Husband  
have had issue of their said Marriage ten Children  
to wit three Sons and seven daughters of which  
the following are now under the age of 16 years  
to wit Minfred Violet aged 13 years, Margaret  
Harriet Locke and George Robert Burn aged  
respectively 9 years; and David aged 7 years
3. That from and immediately after the said  
Marriage down to the present time the said  
Francis Middlecoat has constantly ill-treated



your Petitioner and has used violent filthy and abusive language and epithets to her in the presence of her Servants and Children more especially upon the occasions hereinafter set out.

4. That within three or four days after the said Marriage the said Francis Middlecoat falsely accused your Petitioner of having committed incest

5. That within a month of the said Marriage your Petitioner was compelled to seek and obtain a Magisterial Decree of Separation from the said Francis Middlecoat in consequence of his serious ill-treatment of your Petitioner

6. That upon many occasions the said Francis Middlecoat had been guilty of indecent conduct in the presence of his Daughters and has refused to listen to the remonstrances of your Petitioner upon the Subject

7. That upon one occasion whilst living at Pallavaram, and Bangalore in India the said Francis Middlecoat called your Petitioner a whore

8. That upon the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1887 at Pallavaram in India the said Francis Middlecoat was guilty of insult to your Petitioner in that he used the following words to your Petitioner "You have lied hellishly and damnably, Your house will be a Whoredom within a week of my death"

9. That upon many occasions the said Francis Middlecoat has compelled your Petitioner to submit to his having sexual intercourse with her although at the same time your Petitioner was physically unwell and such sexual intercourse caused her great pain and suffering

10. That upon the 31<sup>st</sup> May 1891 the said Francis Middlecoat violently pushed your Petitioner



at 142 Evening Road aforesaid

11. That upon an occasion happening shortly before Christmas 1890 the said Francis Middlecoat pushed your Petitioner with such violence at 232 Amburst Road Stoke Newington aforesaid that she fell on the floor and was hurt in the presence of her children
12. That in the month of May 1891 upon his return from India the said Francis Middlecoat came into the Bedroom at 142 Evening Road aforesaid where your Petitioner and her two Children were lying seriously ill and persisted in making a great noise causing great pain and anguish to your Petitioner and great harm to the said Children
13. That upon another occasion happening in the month of May 1891 the said Francis Middlecoat came into the Room at 142 Evening Road aforesaid where your Petitioner was attending to her daughter Mary Constance who was seriously and dangerously ill and persisted in abusing and shouting at your Petitioner although requested not to do so causing great pain and distress of mind to your Petitioner and her said Daughter
14. That upon the 11<sup>th</sup> May 1891 whilst your Petitioner was suffering from a disease known as the Influenza and was in a very weak state and whilst your Petitioner was suffering from her monthly periods, both of which facts were known to the said Francis Middlecoat he the said Francis Middlecoat insisted upon having sexual intercourse with your Petitioner and caused her great pain and moreover the said Francis Middlecoat used filthy and abusive language to your Petitioner upon the said occasion
15. That your Petitioner is afraid to cohabit with the said Francis Middlecoat both on her own



account and on account of the children of the said  
Marriage.

Wherefore Your Petitioner Prays  
That your Lordship may be pleased  
to decree that your Petitioner may be  
judicially separated from the said  
James Middlecoat and that she  
may have such further and other  
relief as to your Lordship may seem  
meet in the premises

Mary M. Middlecoat

4408  
2

*In the Matter of the  
Petition of Mary Henrietta  
Middlecoat for a Judicial  
Separation* \_\_\_\_\_

~~with~~  
*Affidavit  
of the Petitioner verifying  
the Petition* \_\_\_\_\_

for  
file

FILED 9 JUN 1891

*Arthur Newton & Co.  
24 Great Marlborough Street  
Petitioners Solicitors*



*In the Matter of the Petition  
of Mary Henrietta Middlecoat for a  
Judicial Separation*

*I Mary Henrietta Middlecoat of 142  
Evering Road Stoke Newington in the County of Middlesex  
the lawful wife of Francis Middlecoat a retired Colonel  
in the Madras Staff Corps make oath and say as follows.*

*1. I have read the Petition about to be presented by  
me against the said Francis Middlecoat and I say  
that the statements contained in Paragraphs 1 to 5  
and 7 to 15 all inclusive are within my own  
knowledge true and I further say that I verily  
believe the statements contained in Paragraph 6  
to be true.*

*2. I further say that there is no collusion or  
connivance between me this Deponent and the said  
Francis Middlecoat.*

*Sworn at 11 Argyll Place  
in the County of London  
this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June  
1891.*

*M. H. Middlecoat*

*Before me*

*C. L. Norman*

*Commissioner to administer Oaths  
in the Supreme Court of Judicature*