

S T A T E O F M A I N E.

CUMBERLAND, SS.

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On this 15th day of December, 1919, personally appeared before me the within named EVA BENNETT, at the office of Robert Hale, in Portland in said County, and being first sworn according to law, before me, then gave the following deposition, which was written by Fred L. Hayden, a disinterested person, in my presence and under my direction. Said deposition was taken at the request of ANNE ARCHBOLD SAUNDERSON to be in perpetual remembrance of the matters herein testified to. ARMAR DAYROLLS SAUNDERSON was duly notified to attend by notice of the within deposition served on him in hand, but did not attend.

Robert Hale

Justice of the Peace.

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EVA BENNETT, having been duly sworn by the Magistrate to testify to the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, in answer to interrogatories propounded by Leon V. Walker, Esq., testified as follows:

Q State your name ?

A Eva Bennett .

Q Where do you reside now?

A Palmouth Foreside.

Q What is your occupation?

A Nurse. Children's nurse.

Q By whom are you employed?

A By Mrs. Saunderson.

Q What is Mrs. Saunderson's first name?

A Anne.

Q How long have you been in the service of Mrs. Saunderson?

A I been there ten years.

Q Where was Mrs. Saunderson residing when you first entered her employment?

A Hampton Court Palace, England.

Q Of what did the Saunderson household consist, or of whom was it composed at the time you went there?

A We were staying with Mr. Saundersons's mother.

Q What is Mr. Saunderson's first name?

A Armar.

Q What did you observed as to the relations between Mr. and Mrs. Saunderson when you first went to live with them?

A Well, they seemed to be all right, but I never saw any affect³ion at all for Mrs. Saunderson from Mr. Saunderson. He always treatedd her just absolutely indifferent to her.

Q Do you know how long they had been married at that time?

A Well, I think Lydia was two years old. I think it must have been three years, but I am not certain.

Q Is Lydia the oldest?

A Lydia is the oldest girl, yes.

Q How many children are there?

A There are four children.

Q Do you know a Fannie Marthe Berg?

A Yes, sir.

Q When did she come to live in the Saunderson family?

A She came in 1913.

Q Was that while they were residing in England?

A Yes, that was when they were at Lyndhurst, England, Foxlease Park.

Q Were you in Bar Harbor during the summer of 1914?

A Yes.

Q Was Miss Berg at Bar Harbor in the family at that time?

A Yes.

Q In the autumn of 1914 do you recall going to New York with Mrs. Saunderson?

A Yes. I went to New York with Mrs. Saunderson.

Q You remember about how long you were away?

A I think we were away about two weeks.

Q Who went with you besides Mrs. Saunderson?

A The two babies, John and Moira.

Q Did Mr. Saunderson remain at Bar Harbor?

A Yes, sir.

Q Who remained there at Bar Harbor with the family with him?

A Mlle. Berg and the two eldest children, and there was a nursery maid.

Q Did you afterwards learn anything as to the relations between Mr. Saunderson and Mlle. Berg during that time that you were in New York with Mrs. Saunderson?

A When I came back to Bar Harbor, Mlle. Berg met me in the evening and she said she had had a wonderful time, and she had been out with Mr. Saunderson, been out to Jordan's Pond and to Ellsworth, and that she had had relations with Mr. Saunderson.

Q By relations, you understood it to mean that she had had sexual relations with him?

A Yes.

Q Did she tell you how many times she had had relations with him?

A No, she didn't tell me how many times.

Q Did the Saunderson family later go back to England?

A Mr. Saunderson went over then in I think it was in October and Mrs. Saunderson went over in December, November or December, and then Mr. Saunderson came back so he could take the children over in February.

Q Did you remain here until February?

A Yes.

Q Did you go back on the same boat with Mr. Saunderson and the children?

A Yes. And Mlle. Berg.

Q Mlle. Berg was on the boat too?

A Yes.

Q Did you observe any relations of any sort between Mr. Saunderson and Mlle. Berg on the boat?

A The only thing I noticed was one afternoon I went to Mr. Saunderson's room to ask him something about the children, and I found him lying in the berth, and Mlle Berg was sitting in the same berth with her legs over the side, hanging over the side of the berth.

Q After you arrived in England what did you observe as to any relations between Mr. Saunderson and Miss Berg?

A Well, they used to go into Southampton. She went in to a singing lesson. She said she was going to singing lessons, and he used to take her in and bring her out about seven or eight o'clock in the evening. Practically twice a week that was happening.

Q Did she get in openly at the house?

A Yes.

Q Or did he meet her somewhere?

A No, she used to get in at the house.

Q What did you learn in regard to any relations between them

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after they returned to England other than what you have already described? Did she tell you anything about them?

A No. Well, one afternoon she came to my room and she said she had been out with Mr. Saunderson, and I just asked her what she thought she was getting out of this, and she said, "Well, she didn't know", but she said that Mr. Saunderson said-- told her that her life would be changed in three months time, and he was going to have Lydia and John, and I said, "Do you think Mr. Saunderson is going to be divorced for you?", and she said "I do not know. That is what Mr. Saunderson says, and I shall be a very happy woman if I have him and his two children".

Q What was Miss Berg's connection with the family, what was she supposed to do?

A She was governess, French governess.

Q Did you ever see Miss Berg go to Mr. Saunderson's room?

A No.

Q Did she ever go there when you were there?

A She went up one morning, when she was visiting for Christmas, I went up to Mr. Saunderson to ask him about the hotel, to ask him what hotel that I had to stay at at Margate with the two children, and he told me to go to ask Mlle. Berg. Then I went down to ask her, and she was in her wrapper, and she said she did not know, that she would go up. I went back up to Mr. Saunderson's room and she followed me in her wrapper. That is the only time I have seen her in his room.

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Q This wrapper that you speak of, did it give the appearance of being quite negligee?

A Well, it was just merely a pink wrapper. I don't know that there was anything unusual. I couldn't say.

Q Do you recall that Mrs. Saunderson came to America in the latter part of 1916?

A Yes.

Q Do you remember the occasion of her visit to America?

A Yes.

Q What was it?

- A Her father had just died and she came to America to bury him.
- Q Did you remain in England?
- A Yes. I was in the nursing home with the two babies.
- Q This nursing home that you speak of was at their place at Foxlease?
- A I was in London. It was in London at the time. The nursing home, with the two babies. I stopped up there for three weeks, and in the meantime Mr. Saunderson just called in once about twelve o'clock in the morning, and then he never asked or asked anything how the children was or anything during that time.
- Q Weren't you at Foxlease apart of the time while Mrs. Saunderson was away?

A Yes, I went there at Foxlease for Christmas.

- Q Now will you tell what you observed in regard to the relations between Mr. Saunderson and Miss Berg while you were there that Christmas?

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A I saw Mlle. Berg and Mr. Saunderson a lot together. They were more or less always in each others' company, and in the evening she always had dinner down stairs with him, which was a thing that never happened in the ordinary way, because she always had her dinners upstairs with me.

- Q Where did you see them together other than you have already spoken of? Did they drive together?

A Yes, they went out in the car together several times. They walked about the place together.

- Q Did she have anything to say about being out with him while Mrs. Saunderson was here on that occasion? While Mrs. Saunderson was in America on that occasion?

A No, she just said that she was having a wonderful time. That was all.

- Q Do you recall Miss Berg's making a trip to Geneva, Switzerland, during the time you were there in the Saunderson family and she was?

A Yes.

- Q Do you remember when that was?

A It was in June of 1915 she went to Switzerland and she came back in I think it was October the same year.

- Q Do you remember whether she had an illness while she was away?

A When she came back she told me that she had had an operation.

- Q What sort of an operation?

A It was an operation to-- so that she couldn't have-- she was in a family way and she had this operation to prevent the child

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from being born.

- Q Do you know who paid her expenses to Switzerland?

A She didn't tell me who paid her expenses.

- Q Now from the time Miss Berg came to live in the Saunderson family until Mr. and Mrs. Saunderson separated, will you say what evidences of affection if any you ever noticed on his part towards Mrs. Saunderson?

A No, I didn't/notice any affection at all. He had never shown her any affection that I have seen, of all the ten years I have been with them, and I was with the children-- he was fond of the

children, but he never was interested in a thing they did, and Moira, when I was in the nursing home, as I say, that he just came in one day and he knew Mrs. Saunderson was away, and he never sent up word to know how they were or anything, and then Moira was ill for three months this last year and he came into the nursery three times, and times and times he has been away two or three weeks together and I have had to go up and ask him to come and say good night to the children. He has never come down to see them.

Q Do you know a Mrs. Rosalie Hogg?

A Yes.

Q Where did you know her?

A She has been visiting. I met her on her visit to Foxlease Park.

Q Was she there at some time?

A No, she just came for two or three days at a time.

Q Did she visit on more than one occasion there?

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A Yes.

Q What do you know in regard to her relations with Mr. Saunderson?

A I have only seen her once. She came into my room at seven o'clock in the morning and asked if she could get into bed with the children, and I got out of bed and went into my bath room and she went to the window, and Mr. Saunderson was coming down out of the rose garden, and she called to him and asked him to come up to my room, and he came up, and she was in bed with John, and they both had tea together in my room in the morning. She was in her night dress and he was fully dressed.

Q Did Mrs. Saunderson appear to know of any relations that he was having with Miss Berg or with Mrs. Hogg?

A No, not at all. Not any.

Q When did you come to America for the last time?

A We came in March, 1919.

Q Did Mrs. Saunderson come at the same time?

A Yes.

Q Did Mrs. Saunderson come at the same time you did?

A Yes.

Q Did she bring all of the children with her?

A Yes.

Q Do you know whether Mrs. Saunderson had separated from Mr. Saunderson prior to her leaving England?

A No.

Q You don't know anything about that, you say?

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A No.

Q During the last year or two before Mrs. Saunderson came to America, will you state whether Mr. Saunderson was at home very much, during the last year or two, two years? During the last two years before Mrs. Saunderson came to the United States, in March?

A Yes.

Q Was Mr. Saunderson much at home?

A No, he was home very, very seldom.

Q How often do you think he came home?

A O, he came home sometimes twice in two months.

Q How long did he stay?

A He would come on Saturday afternoon and just come in and change and get the car and go over to his mother where she lived, about five miles away. Perhaps he would come home to dinner on Saturday night again, and off again on Sunday morning.

Q Did you see him with Mrs. Saunderson very much during that time?

A No, very, very seldom.

Q How much did he see of the children when he came on those occasional visits?

A He hardly ever saw the children unless they was out around the place. He never hardly ever saw the children.

Eva Bennett

Rec'd March 12, 1920 at 9h. 10m. A.M., and entered by,

George R. Hadlock, Reg'r.