

Appeared in the newspaper in Cannon County:

NON RESIDENT NOTICE

Thos. Ready, et al.) In Chancery
vs.) at
Patsey Ready, et al.) Woodbury

In this cause it appearing to the Clerk and Master from the bill filed, which is sworn to that Joe Ready and Mahala Keaton, formerly Ready, are non-residents of the State of Tenn., it is ordered by the C. & M. that the said Joe Ready and Mahala Keaton, formerly Ready, be required to appear before the Chancery court at Woodbury, Tenn., on the second Monday in March 1892, and make defense to said bill, or the same will be taken for confessed, and the cause set for hearing ex-parte as to them.

It is further ordered that this notice be published for four consecutive weeks in the Cannon Carrier.

This Feb., 1892.

W.J. Wood, C. & M.
B.L. Ridley and A.J. Smithson defendants '
for the Plaintants.

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To the Hon Walter S. Bearden, Chancellor & C presiding at Woodbury, Tenn.
The said Bill of Compl of Thomas Ready, Mary Ready and husband, who live in Missouri, and John Stephen Ready whose residence is in Obion Co., Tenn., Martha Smithson, formerly Ready, and her husband Fletcher Smithson, and Sophia Herriman, formerly Ready, and Emeline Reed and husband "Dink" Reed, Susie Willard, formerly Ready, and her husband Presley Willard, and Christopher Ready, all of Cannon County, Tennessee, except, Susie Willard and Presley Willard of Rutherford County Tenn. and Mack Ready deceased of Arkansas, but Mrs. Mack Ready of Arkansas sues in her own right, and as next friend of her minor child - Ready, he having no regular guardian and Elias Ready, and Aaron Ready of Davidson County, Tennessee.

Against

Patsy Ready, France Ready, Wm. Ready last minor of tender years without a regular guardian, Jas. Ready, Thomas Ready, Jennie Bogle, her husband (???) Bogle, Tilda Ready and Maggie Ready, widow of John Ready, deceased, all of Cannon County, Tennessee, and Joe Ready of the state of Kansas and Mahala Keeton, formerly Ready of the State of Texas, all of whom are defendants.

Your complainants would most respectfully show your Hon. that on the 2nd day of Jany. 1848 Wm. Nichol sold and conveyed to LUCRETIA READY, a tract of land containing 140 acres, in Cannon County, Tennessee, bounded in general terms as follows,

viz. On the East by Amos Gaither, on the South by Thomas Campbell's line; on the West by Amos Gaither and on the north by Carr Alexander and Daniel Travers.

Compls. would say to the court further that the said LUCRETIA READY inherited from her mother fifty (50) acres of land which she sold to MACK CARUTHERS and with the money obtained from the sale of said inherited land, she bought the above described 140 acres of land, which is now the bone of contention in this cause.

Compls. say to your Hon. that the said LUCRETIA READY was a married woman, the wife of James Ready who died in March 1861, at the time of the above sale and purchase, and that she and her husband James Ready were living on the 140 acre tract of land where he died in March 1861, and she lived on the same land and owned and controlled it until her death in 1881, Nov. 16. The deed from Wm. Nichol to LUCRETIA READY was duly recorded in book A, Page 265 in the register's office in Cannon County Tennessee, and the same is made a part of this bill, and marked exhibit a, but need not be copied.

The said Lucretia Ready died seized and possessed of said land as fully and completely as could have been.

Compls. state also that LUCRETIA READY departed this life, leaving 12 children, as follows:

Wm. Ready who is now dead, and whose widow and children are named and set out as parties defendants to this bill.

At the time of the death of LUCRETIA READY the following girls were married, and are yet married: Mary, Martha, Sophia, Emiline, and Susie, except Sophia whose husband died two and a half years ago, and at the time of the death of the said Lucretia Ready the above named children who were real and legitimate heirs of the said Lucretia Ready were so scattered that what was the business of every one "was no one's business" and it was therefore neglected. In fact the heirs were led to believe by a fraud practiced upon them by Wm. Ready that there was nothing belonging to them, save a few household goods and kitchen furniture, and therefore have not until this good day asserted their rights.

I'm sure there was more to this legal paper, but this was all that was sent to me.

Here is some more that was from this same Case of Ready Vs. Ready, et al. The Widow Caruthers that this refers to was Mary (Polly)/Lucretia (Stacy) Caruthers, wife of Edmond.

Thos. Ready Estate

) Depo.
vs) Wm. Barton
)

Patsy Ready Estate

Filed June 1, 1892
W.J. Wood, Com.

Thomas Ready) In Chancery
vs.) at Woodbury
Patsy Ready) Tennessee
et al)

Depositon of W.M. (Wm.) Barton

Taken up Notice of Complainants to be read as evidence for complainant in above cause. Taken at Clerk & Master's Office at Woodbury - June 1st before W.J. Mood - Clerk & Master and in presence of Counsel for Complainants & defendant.

William Barton being sworn deposed as follows:

Ques. First state Mr. Barton if you ever knew Miss. Lucretia Ready - if so how long about have you known her?

Ans.: Yes sir - have known her not less than 60 years since my first acquaintance.

Ques. Who was she and where did she live before her marriage with James Ready?

Ans. She was a daughter of the widow Caruthers, but I think that probably she was married when I first knew her.

Ques. When you first knew Miss Lucretia Ready and James Ready where were they living.

Ans. They were living upon what is called Carsons Fork - on the Widow Caruthers land, at least I so understood it to be.

Que. At that time was these land and all that section near you in Rutherford Co.

Ans. Yes sir.

Ques. How many children had the Widow Caruthers?

Ans. I don't know that I knew. Mrs. Ready, Max Caruthers, Tom Caruthers - There was said to be another boy but I don't remember him. His name was Ed - there might have been others.

Ques. What was James Ready's financial condition at the time he lived on the Widow Caruthers land?

Ans. Well, I don't think Ready had anything at the time. I could tell why - One older brother was selling goods at the time. I was at the store frequently. I noticed who they considered good or insolvent and they classed him as not being good for his debts. I was a little boy at the time.

Ques. After the widow Caruthers died - who remained on the land.

Ans. Well that I don't remember now - I don't remember who bought it.

Ques. Well when James Ready & wife lived there, what other children also lived there?

Ans. There was none but Mac Caruthers before he married, besides Mrs. Ready - Tom had been gone a good long time with a drove of horses and never heard of. Went with my Brother & never returned. He was hired by my brother to go with him.

Ques. Do you know what amount of land Mrs. Ready inherited from her mother.

Ans. No sir - I do not.

Ques. Do you know what became of the land that Mrs. Caruthers died seized & possessed of.

Ans. No sir. I know who owns the land now - James W. Roberts - he bought it from Dr. Bridges.

Ques. Do you know where the old lady Caruthers died at.

Ans. I don't know - I thought that she died at the place in controversy where Billy Ready died, but can't say positively about that.

Ques. Mr. Barton do you know how Miss Caruthers left the land. Ans. No Sir, I do not but I think that Mrs. Caruthers had lost sight entirely of Tom and the other one Ed. being alive before she died.

Ques. Do you know who her lands were divided between after her death?

Ans. No sir, I don't know.

Ques. Did she or not divide out her lands before she died.

Ans. I don't know.

Ques. Do you know anything of James Ready and wife selling Lucretia Readys interest in the Caruthers land to anyone.

Ans. I can't say that I do.

Cross examined:

Ques.: What is your age -

Ans. I was seventy nine last April.

Ques. How old were you when Mrs. Caruthers left the place she lived on in the 3rd District - on Carson's Fork

Ans. I don't remember.

Ques. Who did Mac Caruthers marry

Ans. He married a Fortenberry

Ques. Did Mac Caruthers wife have any land.

Ans. She had some land adjoining Mrs. Caruthers - and Mac settled there -

Ques. What became of Mrs. Caruthers land - did Mac Caruthers get possession of it -

The following answer had been marked out, but I am putting it in anyway:

Ans. Mac Caruthers got possession of it and lived on it - many years, and it occurs to me it was finally sold under a deed of trust, or mortgage & bought by -----

Ans. I don't know whether Mac got possession of it or not - James M. Roberts now owns the land - He bought from James N. Bridges - I don't know the number of acres in the old Caruthers place.

Quest. Do you know how Mrs. Caruthers held the land - whether in her own right or as a dower?

Ans.: I do not -

Quest.: Was old Mrs. Caruthers a widow when you first knew her?

Ans.: She was - and I never knew her husband.

Quest: Did you know William Ready, father of Defendants in his lifetime. If so how long had you known him.

Ans.: I knew him pretty well all his life -

Quest.: Was he not in possession, cultivating, claiming the land in controversy openly and notoriously from the time he was married till his death -

Ans.: That was my understanding. I had heard it always - but I cannot remember the date of his marriage.

Excepted to because heresay & because the question is one of law.

Quest.: Do you know how Wm. Ready got in possession of this land -

Ans.: No Sir -

Question: How far do you live from the land in controversy?

Answ.: About five miles -

Quest.: Was not Wm. Ready father of Defs. in possession cultivating and controlling this land from before the war till his death?.

Answ.: I suppose he was.

Answer EXCEPTED to because not (Could not read this)

Quest.: You knew Wm. Ready well in his lifetime -

Answ.: I was acquainted with him pretty well all his life -

Quest.: Did you ever hear of anyone selling up any adverse claims to the land from the close of the war till this suit got up.

Answ.: I don't remember of anybody claiming it -

Quest.: He died in possession of this land and his widow and children have been in possession ever since, have they not?

EXCEPTED

Answ: So far as I know -

Quest.: Do you remember of there being a suit before the war - between Wm. Ready and his father James Ready -

Answ.: I remember hearing something of a suit - but I do not remember particulars - I don't remember whether it was about the land - but there was a controversy.

Quest.: Was not the lands of the dep that Mrs. Caruthers lived on, on Carsons Fork, buy cheap, was it not?

Answ.: Yes sir - I could not fix a price - it was very low - It was sold by the farm in those days - and not by the acre.

RE-EXAMINED:

Quest.: Mr. Barton - Do you know where James Ready died in 1861?

Answ. I don't know where he died.

Quest.: On what land was he living and how long had he lived there before his death.

Answ. He was living on the farm in controversy I suppose. I don't remember the date of his death - Don't know how long.

Quest.: Do you know how long Mrs. Lucretia Ready had been living on and claiming that land in controversy.

Answ.: I do not.

Quest.: Do you know where she had been living from 1848 til the time of her death in 1881.

Answ.: I don't know. I suppose that she was living on the place there but I can't say that I knew it.

Quest.: Then James Ready & wife were both living on that place when William Ready & his father had a controversy about it did they not?

Answ.: Yes sir - I suppose they were.

Quest.: Was that controversy not about whether James Ready had a title to it, or William Ready?

Answ. I couldn't say about that.

Quest.: Was not James Ready claiming the land also.

Answ.: I don't recollect about that.

Qyest.: Has not Mrs. Lucretia Ready raised up her family on that land I speak of the land in controversy -Answ. I suppose immeasurably - if not altogether.

Re-Cross Examined

Quest.: Do you know whether she rented....

This is all that was sent to me.