

your application was investigated. For twelve years in succession I have been honored with a seat in the Legislature of Ky.; and during that time, as a general thing, have felt it my duty to oppose applications for divorce. Indeed such has been my course on those subjects, that I have been considered by many as being too rigid in my inquiries, and examined too closely into the domestic relations; this may be true, but I feel that I have done my duty in relation to your application.

"I recollect distinctly, that intelligent and honorable men were examined before the committee, and the result was the firm conviction of my mind (and I believe of every member of the committee), that your bill ought to pass. And in obedience to the order of the committee, I reported the bill back to the Senate on the 13th, with an expressed opinion of the committee, that the bill ought to pass; and the rules being suspended, the bill passed, I believe, without a dissenting voice. I can say, without fear of contradiction, that during the pendency of your application, your conduct was dignified, honorable, and manly; and that you not only sustained the character of a gentleman of nice feelings, and a just sense of honor, but that you occupied a place in the sympathies and affections of all the members of the Legislature, with whom you became acquainted. And I further know, that your character in Bourbon was such, as not only enlisted Gen. Matron, Mr. Thornton, and Mr. Davis, in your behalf; but it also procured for you the application of the near relatives of the woman you were married to, for your release; and upon the ground that she was in default entirely and exclusively; and I will further add, that so far from your reputation having suffered, or in the least degree been prejudiced, by this procedure, it must have suffered if you had not applied."

The next paper was from the Hon. Garret Davis, of April 3d, 1836: "I managed Mr. Burnett's application for divorce. He took this step with the knowledge, approval and co-operation of his wife's brother and brother-in-law. The ground of it, sustained by proof, was that her conduct, and treatment of him generally,