

AN UNFORTUNATE MARRIAGE.

Doe Lea Man and his Second Wife.

"It is one of those unfortunate marriages which should never have taken place," said a police officer in a case in which a separation order was granted to Elsie Ethel Mosley, at the Chesterfield County Police Court on Saturday, when she charged her husband, William Mosley, with deserting her at Doe Lea.

Mr. A. J. Hopkins appeared for the defendant.

Complainant stated that she had only been married a year last October, and there was one child eight months old. A fortnight ago her husband went away and never came back, leaving her without food and money. She complained that her husband stopped out late at night with other women.

Mr. Hopkins: You are the second wife, aren't you?—Yes.

Mr. Hopkins stated that the defendant had two children by his first wife, and asked the complainant if it was not a fact that both of the children were away because of her conduct?—No.

Isn't the little boy living with the grandmother because you would not be kind to him?—Be kind to him? No.

Have you threatened your husband with a poker?—When he has hit me.

Haven't you locked him in the house?—When he has been out late.

Didn't you burn his clogs?—When he hit me I did.

Have you hidden his clothes so that he has missed nine days' work?—Was I likely to do when we had nothing in the house!

Mr. Hopkins went on to refer to an occasion when the complainant and her husband took the baby to Chesterfield.

"Didn't you put the baby on the floor and go away?" he asked.

Complainant admitted that she did, because her husband refused to carry the child.

That was in the streets of Chesterfield?—Yes.

And haven't you constantly ill-treated the baby?—No.

Ald. Markham (to the complainant): How old are you?—Twenty-three next January.

And how old is your husband?—Thirty-three.

Sergt. Smith stated that he had been called on many occasions to the parties. It was one of those unfortunate marriages, said the sergeant, which should never have taken place. The man had two children by his first wife, and it appeared that he would rather maintain the second wife and her child, and live apart with his other two children.

"I don't think there is a possible chance of these two living comfortably together," concluded the officer.

The defendant agreed for a separation order to be made for the complainant at 7s. 6d. per week and the custody of her own child.