

remaining item is the expenditure in the prosecution of this case. Legal expense of organization is universally regarded as a proper item of capitalization. It necessarily must precede operation and no method is apparent by which this expense can be met except from capital. The fact that the peculiar circumstances of this case may make the organization expense large does not alter the principle. This will include all expenditures by order of the commission and the amount reasonably expended or incurred by the plaintiffs in the course of this litigation. The only facts remaining to be settled appear to be the amount of working capital, which will be determined by the plaintiffs; and the expense of organization, which will be found by the commission. This being determined, the only just and reasonable order that can be made will be one permitting capitalization at the aggregate of the several sums, the value of the property, \$245,000, the new expenditure, \$73,572.42, the amount required for working capital, originally estimated at \$15,000, and the organization expense.

The case is recommitted to the commission for such further proceedings as justice may require in accordance with the foregoing findings and rulings.

Remanded.

All concurred.

Belknap, }
Feb. 6, 1917. }

JOHN R. BROWN v. LIZZIE B. BROWN.

Abandonment and refusal to cohabit, as a ground of divorce under P. S., c. 175, s. 5, *subdiv. x*, exists where there is an abandonment of the relation of husband and wife though the parties may occupy the same premises.

LIBEL FOR DIVORCE, charging abandonment and refusal to cohabit. In June, 1910, the defendant left the plaintiff's bed without cause and without his consent and has ever since refused to live with him as his wife. They lived in the same house until June, 1914, when she moved into another, where she has since resided. The question whether the foregoing facts constitute a cause of divorce was transferred by *Kivel, J.*, from the March term, 1916, of the superior court.

Walter S. Peaslee, for the plaintiff, was not called upon.

YOUNG, J. As the facts are understood, the court has found that the defendant without sufficient cause and without her husband's consent has refused for more than three years together to live with him as his wife. On these facts there should be a decree for the plaintiff; for P. S., c. 175, s. 5, *subdiv.* x, provides that a divorce shall be decreed "when either party, without sufficient cause, and without the consent of the other, has abandoned and refused, for three years together, to cohabit with the other." The offence at which this subdivision is aimed is the abandonment of the relation of husband and wife,—not the abandonment of the house in which they were living as man and wife. That is a distinct cause for divorce. *Ib.*, *subdiv.*'s XI, XII. It is obvious, therefore, that the offence at which this section is aimed is one that may be committed as well when the parties live in the same house as when they live in different houses.

Divorce decreed.

All concurred.

Hillsborough, }
Feb. 6, 1917. }

ROBERT S. MORRISON v. ALBERT W. NOONE.

Declarations by a deceased owner as to the boundary of his land and those made by one employed thereon, since deceased, are admissible, if the declarants had means of knowledge and no interest to misrepresent.

The testimony of a witness in a former proceeding, since deceased, is inadmissible against one who neither was a party thereto nor had the right of cross-examination.

No exception lies to a ruling permitting a party, who has been called to testify by the opposite party, to be cross-examined by his own counsel.

An objection that an issue was improperly submitted to the jury because of the lack of evidence was denied when made for the first time after verdict, and it not appearing that the deficiency could not be supplied.

PETITION, for the assessment of damages under the flowage act, P. S., c. 142, ss., 12-19. Trial by jury and verdict for the defendant. A bill of exceptions was allowed by *Branch, J.*, at the May term, 1916, of the superior court.

Plaintiff showed title to the premises since 1903 by deeds dating back to 1851. The defendant claimed the right to flow the plaintiff's