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OUR FIRST DIVORCE.

Legal Formality Was Nothing to  
This Justice.

An incident is related concerning the marriage of a couple and their speedy divorcement, by a justice of the peace. This occurred in the northern part of the county about forty years ago.

The couple appeared at the residence of the magistrate near Miami one evening and said they desired to be married. His honor had never performed a job of the kind and seemed at a loss how to proceed. However, his wife being a devout Methodist, he had a copy of the discipline of that church in the home and turning to the form of the marriage service, ordered the couple to stand up and join hands and proceeded to perform the ceremony after the rites of that church and after the fashion of a Methodist Episcopal Minister.

The next morning early they presented themselves to the magistrate and requested him to "unmarry them." That worthy was equal to the occasion. Having usurped powers sacerdotal the previous evening, he now assumed powers judicial.

Commanding the pair to stand up with their backs together he again took down the discipline and proceeded to read the marriage service backward, from the ending to the beginning. When the reading was concluded he said in an impressive manner, "Now, what I have tied asunder let no man put together again and may the Lord have mercy on your souls."

It is said that this was the first "divorce" ever granted in the county.