

'Courtship' leads to Albion's first marriage

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The following account is taken directly from "Pioneer History of Orleans County," compiled by Arad Thomas and published in 1871. It is of legendary nature yet gives us a glimpse of early pioneer life. The time frame here is probably the 1820s.

The first marriage in what is now the village of Albion took place under the following circumstances:

An action was tried before Robert Anderson, a justice of the peace at the Village of Gaines, to recover damages for a hog that had been wrongfully killed by the defendant. The plaintiff recovered a judgment.

As soon as the result was declared, the defendant took the justice aside and asked him to go at once to a house mentioned and marry him. He gave as his reason for haste that execution would soon be issued against him on the judgment, which he was unable to pay; that he would be taken to Batavia to jail; and if he was a single man, he did not know when he should get out, but if he was married he could swear out in 30 days.

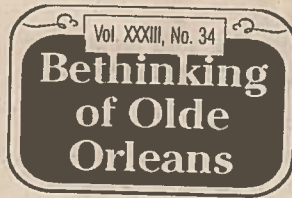
The justice objected that it was then midnight, the house named was three miles off, the night was dark, and the road was through the woods most of the way. He finally agreed to go after getting supper.

In the meantime, the



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Esquire. The marriage took place according to plan.

The house stood on the west side of Main Street, about a quarter of a mile north of the canal.

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would-be-bride-groom hurried to the house to wake up the family and the bride, and put a light in the window to guide the