

A Pioneer Wedding

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Mrs. Caldwell recently told me an interesting story of a marriage that occurred nearly 30 years ago in Lake Magdalene section. A vast area was owned by Mrs. Caldwell's grandmother, who was developing large orange groves. The groom was John Parrish, her son, and the bride was Mary Magdalene Yates, daughter of Jonah Yates, first mayor of Plant City. Guests were in attendance from all parts of the county. Large tents were erected and cots placed in them for the guest, as the festivities were to continue two days.

L.D. Townsend and his son, Joe, were engaged to barbeque the meats- venison, a calf, a sheep, and many chickens. And in the "big house" a number of women baked cakes, pies and other good things appropriate for the occasion.

Among the guest named by Mrs. Caldwell were Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Sparkman, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley P. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Spencer the Anderson an Strickland families, Green Robles, Clifford Herrick, Melville Carruth, Gettis Henderson, Misses Lillie Wall, India Lesley, Ruby Nunez, Tillie McKay, Mrs. Credonia Reynolds and their other two daughters Sallie and Lutie.

There were speeches and dancing and various other entertainment and Grandma Parrish named the beautiful Lake Magdalene in honor of the bride. The affair was talked of for years.

Copy of article provided by Ms. Dana Parrish, great-granddaughter of Mary Magdalene Yates Parrish

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