

WIFE ALREADY WED, HE SECURES DIVORCE

Monese Levine and Mrs. Ida Baller Find Marital Relation of July 20, 1913, Illegal.

When Monese Levine and Mrs. Ida Baller entered the marital relation July 20, 1913, each thought a legal wedding ceremony had been performed. But it later developed that Mrs. Baller had not been divorced from her first husband, Isaac Baller, to whom she was married on Nov. 1, 1908, in New York. At the request of Levine, District Judge Fesler yesterday declared the purported marriage was null and void and restored each to the former status.

The explanation of Mrs. Baller, who took the witness stand, fully convinced the court that she was under the impression that a divorce had been obtained from her first husband when the ceremony was performed with Levine. It appeared that the Ballers separated six months after their marriage and Mrs. Baller came to St. Louis county to live. Her husband wrote from Toronto, Can., that he desired to make some arrangements for the care of their little girl. An agreement was signed by both in which they agree to live apart, and Mrs. Baller accepted \$50 in lieu of what she considered was her alimony rights. She believed this was a divorce, but when she exhibited the agreement to Levine three weeks after their marriage, he discovered that he had wedded a married woman. Soon afterward he began an action to have the ceremony annulled.