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BY J. B. HARRIS. CLINTON, LA., MARCH 7, 1855. VOL. 1—NO. 11.



## AMERICAN PATRIOT:

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## GOD SEEN EVERYWHERE.

BY MRS. ELIZABETH COPWAY.

In the thunder's awful rattle,
In the lightning's lurid glare.
In the cataract's mighty torrent,
God is love, and God is there.

On the mountain's lofty summit,
In the deep and dark ravine,
In the wild and verdant forest,
God is love, and God is seen.

In the ocean's glorious sunset,
In its surface smooth and glare,
In each rare and glowing beauty,
God is seen, and God is there.

In the surging, foaming billows,
When upheaving mountains high,
In their most terrific splendor,
God is seen and God is nigh.

In the rain that gently falleth,
Fertilizing all around;
In the lustre of the dew-drop,
God is love, and God is found.

In the whirlwind's wild commotion,
Sweeping on with angry roar,
Frantic in each varied movement,
God is seen in mighty power.

In the gorgeous architecture
Of the Universe above,
Set with gems of purest lustre,
God displays His power and love.

In the pale moon's mighty wandering's,
'Mid the azure fields of light,
Walking in majestic splendor,
God displays his sovereign might.

In the whole machine of Nature,
Boundless as the shores of time,
Ruling all in matchless order,
God displays His power sublime.

In the Heaven that shines above us,
High on His eternal throne,
Sits the Alpha and Omega,
He is Lord and God alone.

NIAGARA FALLS IN THEIR WINTER ROBE.—The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, of the 9th inst., thus notices the sublime aspect of Niagara Falls in ther winter robe:

Probably there is no sight in the whole world so impressively grand as the Falls present at this time. The unprecedented duration of cold weather has allowed the spray, which winter and summer falls in an unceasing shower, gradually to accumulate in huge cones upon the rocks at the foot and in front of the Falls to an immense size and height. The trees on Goat Island and on the Canada side present an aspect of being chisseled from alabaster or Parian marble—everything within the influence of spray from the cataract presents this singularly beautiful appearance—indeed, so immense has been the accumulation of the frozen spray upon the trees as in some instances to break down trees with trunks over a foot in diameter. The streams which ever percolate through the overhanging rocks on each side of the Falls are gradually congealed into the semblance of immense stalactites, and in some instances present the appearance of regular colonades. Then when the sun lights upon the scene, it gives the beholder more the idea of fairy land than of reality. Those who wish to view a scene of unequalled grandeur should now improve it.

ADVICE TO PLANTERS.—The Augusta Constitutionalist, alluding to the approaching agricultural season, gives the following advice to planters in regard to the choice of crops:

It is to be hoped that cotton planters will not be betrayed by the present low prices of cotton and their want of money to commit the folly of planting a larger crop than usual, in order to make up the required sum by increasing quantity. Increase of production but aggravates the evils under which the planters suffer; for too many strain all their energies to make cotton to the neglect, comparatively, of supplies of provisions and other articles which every plantation needs, and of which a surplus can always find a ready market. This is especially true now, for while cotton is unusually low, almost every other article usually made on a cotton plantation is unusually high, and likely to remain so. Corn especially bears a very high price, with no prospect of an abatement. The home consumption cannot diminish, while the demand for export is all the time increasing. Corn is now a regular article of shipment to Europe, where it is yearly coming more into use. This country will also continue to have a market abroad for all the flour, bacon, beef, and every other transportable article of food.

Let not the prospect of an early peace deceive the planter into the belief that prices of cotton will necessarily, in that event, greatly rise, or prices of provisions greatly fall. Tho' the war should terminate to-morrow, it would be a long time before a material change could be effected in the causes now regulating prices.

To diminish the production of cotton and raise an increased quantity of provisions would at all events, be a safe policy.

Few men take his advice who talks a good deal.

## Origin of Camp-Meetings.

Camp meetings originated among the Presbyterians of Kentucky. The first camp meeting was held near Goosberry river, in July 1800. The ministers present were Messrs. McGready, Wm. McGree and a Mr. Hoge. The author, whose language I quote, says: "Camp meetings being once introduced, the plan spread like wild-fire. The laborer quitted his task, the youth forgot his pastimes, the plough was left in the furrow, age snatched his crutch, the deer enjoyed a respite upon the mountains, business of all kinds was suspended, dwelling houses were deserted, whole neighborhoods were emptied, bold hunters and sober matrons, young men and maidens and little children flocked to the common centre of attraction; every difficulty was encountered, every risk ventured, to be present at the camp meeting."

In connection with these camp meetings a great variety of strange exercises grew up. Children, ten or twelve years of age, were prominent actors. Under paroxysms of feeling persons fell down, and this was called 'the falling exercise.' There were also, 'the jerking exercise,' the 'rolling,' the 'running,' the 'dancing,' and the 'barking exercises,' besides 'visions' and 'trances.' At Cabin Creek camp meeting, May 22, 1801, so many fell on the third night, that to prevent their being trodden on, they were laid out on one side of the meeting floor, like so many corpses. At Broone Creek sacrament two hundred fell; at Pleasant Point three hundred, and at Cane-Ridge three thousand, August 6, 1801. It is said that children, eight months old, were affected by these strange influences.

The first instance of the 'jerking exercise' was at a sacrament in East Tennessee. Persons would be jerked in all directions, and over whatever object happened to be in the way. They were alwys left to themselves, because the people said that to oppose them would be to resist the influences of the Spirit of God. Sometimes those who had long hair, it is said, had their heads jerked so swiftly that the hair snapped like the crack of a whip. It is said that none were injured except those who rebelled against the operation of the Spirit and refused to comply with the injunctions it came to enforce. Some who went to the meetings with whips in their hands to flog others, had their whips jerked out of their hands.

In the 'rolling exercise,' they doubled up and rolled over and over, and it made no difference whether there was mud or filth of any kind in the way. In the 'running exercise' they would run over any obstacle and keep running till quite exhausted.

In the 'dancing exercise,' a writer of that time says they had the privilege of exhibiting, by a bold faith, what others were moved to by a blind impulse. In other instances, a Mr. Thompson, a minister, commenced dancing after meeting, and danced an hour and a half; and said he, 'This is the Holy Gost!' A girl danced for an hour in an empty pew, and others danced in so violent a manner that they could not be held by strong men.

The writer, whom I quote says: One might be tempted to think that the climax had already been reached, but there was a piece of extravagance to complete the degradation of human nature. The 'barks' frequently accompanied the 'jerks' though of later origin. This exercise consisted of the individual taking the position of a dog, moving about on all fours, growling, snapping his teeth, and barking with such exactness of imitation as to deceive any one whose eyes were not directed to the spot.

All classes became effected by this degrading mania, and the only method of securing relief was to engage in the voluntary dance. It was sueposed to be inflicted as a chastisement for remissness in duty. Such as resisted the impulse and declined the dancing continued to be tormented for months; and even years. From being regarded as marks of guilt, the barks at last came to be regarded as tokens of divine favor and badges of special honor.

"Ridiculous as it may seem to us at this distance of time to hear such extraordinary sounds as bow, wow, wow, interspersed with pious ejaculations and quotations of scripture, we are not at liberty to doubt the truth of the assertion that then the effect, or at least one of the effects was to overawe the wicked and excite the minds of the impious."

In the midst of these disorders these preachers who labored to direct the minds of the people to true marks of grace were denounced as deistical, and thus their influence was greatly diminished. Some of the results were, the people would be singing half a dozen hymns at the same time very loud, with violent motions of the body. Sometimes a dozen would be praying at a time, for they said the Lord could hear if they all spoke at once. The preachers were often interrupted with singing in the midst of their sermons. Whoops, cries, hysterical laughter and the repetition of the words of the preacher, even louder than he uttered them, constituted a combination of annoyances to which the waves of the sea, harrangued by the Athenian orator, must have been a trifle.

There are cases enough to show what a state of things existed in Kentucky in the beginning of this century. Our author asks, 'Will it be easily credited that in 1803 the females, fourteen to forty years of age, got into the habit of hugging and embracing every one in their vicinity, and that the men, especially the preachers, came in for a good share of their embrace!'

COMICAL.—A gentleman, by the name of Man, residing near a private madhouse, met one of its poor inhabitants, who had broken from his keeper. The maniac suddenly stopped, and resting upon a large stick, exclaimed:

"Who are you, sir?"

The gentleman was rather alarmed, but thinking to divert his attention by a pun, replied:

"I am a *double* man; I am a Man by name and a man by nature."

"Are you so?" rejoined the other; "why I am a man *beside* myself—so *we two* will fight *you two!*"

He then knocked down poor Man, and ran away.

"John, how does the thermometer stand?"

"Against the wall, dad."

"I mean how is the mercury?"

"I guess its pretty well, dad; it hasn't complained lately."

"You little rascal, is it colder than yesterday?"

"I don't know, dad, I'll go out and feel."

Without a rich heart, wealth is an ugly beggar.

## Chips and Clippings.

Heaven helps those who help themselves.

He who runs after a shadow has a wearisome race.

The wise fortify themselves by reason and fools by despair.

A wise man never grows old in spirit; he marches with the age.

Everything is gained and nothing lost by courtesy. Good manners insure good success.

All noble enthusiasms pass through a feverish stage, and grow wiser and more serene.

Our principles are the springs of our actions; and our actions are the springs of our happiness or misery.

We cannot live better than in striving to become better, nor more agreeable than in having a clear conscience.

A person who undertakes to raise himself by scandalizing others, might as well sit down on a wheelbarrow, and try to wheel himself.

Poetry is the divinest of all arts, for it is the breathing or expression of that principle or sentiment which is deepest or sublimest in human nature.

The most sublime thoughts—beautiful and powerful figures—and pure phraseology—are found in an obsolete work, but seldom quoted, called the Bible.

There are individuals who have acquired a literary reputation without writing a line; there are others, who have a name for bravery, and never fought. The former write, and the latter fight by proxy.

Pleasure is comparative, and enjoyment is relative, the Spanish peasant basking in the scorching sun, and rolling in the dust of his parched-up plains, is as happy as the French shepherds enjoying the balmy air, and the luxuriant vegetation of Languedoc or Provence.

The man that "flew into a passion" is said to have used the "wing of imagination."

They make sandwiches in Australia by putting a piece of leather between two shingles. The price depends on the supply of old boots.

What is the difference between a butcher's patron and the butcher himself? Why, the one wants his meats and the other meats his wants.

A merchant, not over conversant with geography, on hearing that one of his vessels was in jeopardy, exclaimed: "Jeopardy, Jeopardy, where's that?"

Some one asks: "Why is it probably Cowper was very poor?" and answers, when we "give it up," "Because he *oh'd* for a lodge in some vast wilderness!"

The only difference between ancient and modern fasting is, that in ancient time they sat in scakcloth and ashes, while in modern times they sit in broadcloth and ashes.

"Mamma, can a door speak?" "Certainly not, my love." "Then why did you tell Annie, this morning, to answer the door?" "It is time for you to go to school, my dear."

A writer in the Home Journal says of Mrs. Bodestein (late Julia Northall): "She is an angel in a church choir, especially if you can see her *hallelujah* expression of the eye when she sings."

Familiarity breeds indifference. A printer's wife never reads a newspaper, while the man who was born to wealth, can never understand how a love of dollars can ever make people set a higher value on doubloons than they do on billiards.

Chicago is the greatest seaport on the Lakes. Last year the marine arrivals and departures were 10,105, and the Custom House duties amounted to $585,740. The lumber trade alone constantly employs 200 vessels.

Ole Bull, lessee and manager of the Academy of Music in New York, offers a prize of $1000 for the best original grand opera, by an American composer, and upon a strictly American subject.

If strict justice be not the rudder of all our other virtues, the faster we sail the further we find ourselves from that haven where we would be.

Better say nothing, than not to the purpose; and to speak pertinently, consider both what is fit and when it is fit to speak.—*Pen.*

He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him; but blessing shall be on the head of him that selleth it.

Those who call others to repentance, should themselves lead a life of seriousness and purification.

Duties in general, like that class of things called debts, give more trouble the longer they remain undischarged.

What men want, is not talent, it is purpose; in other words, not the power to achieve, but the will to labor.

Prosperity is no just scale, adversity is the only true balance to weigh a friend.

Have the courage to obey your Maker at the risk of being ridiculed by man.

Judge not the rich by their wealth, or the poor by their poverty.

Nothing so well becomes true feminine beauty as simplicity.

We may live without a brother, but not without a friend.

The thoughts of eternity consoles for the shortness of life.

The man who is truly just will flourish in spite of envy.

Fortune when once let go of is seldom caught,

Be slow to give advice—always ready to do a service.

Strike love from the soul, and life is inspired

In the chapter of Barnum's book, which treats of his lottery swindling, we find the following:

Whenever I visited Brookfield I called on one man who was of a serious turn. He and his wife were professors of religion, and he was a frequent exhorter at a prayer meeting. He always managed to buy a ticket or two from me, under the strictest injunction never to divulge the fact to his wife. I usually dined with him, and when he was busy looking after my horse, or otherwise engaged out of doors, I never failed to sell a ticket to his wife, who begged me to be very careful not to let her husband have any suspicion of it, for he was opposed to such things, and would never forgive her if he should know there was a lottery ticket in the house.

## The Peruvian Revoltion and its Chief.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Times relates some interesting particulars which he has gleaned from private sources, respecting the recent success of Castillia, the Peruvian revolutionist. He says that there were with Castillia in the decisive battle, one hundred and fifteen Americans, instead of forty or fifty, as has been stated. These men had been, with many others unsuccessfully toiling for gold upon the branches of the Amazon river and upon their return to the coast, ragged, penniless and half starved, fell in with Castillia and took service under his command. They contributed greatly towards his victory, and at the same time succeeded in lining their own pockets handsomely with gold.

Gen. Castillia is said to be a fine looking, energetic man, about fifty-five years of age, tall, thin and grey haired. He has once before been President of Peru, and is the only President she has had since her seperation from Spain, who served the full term of six years. Revolutions have removed all the others after from one to three year's administration of the government. Castillia was very popular during his presidency. He did not rob the exchequer as much as his predecessors and successors, and he projected and carried out many public improvements. Echenique, on the contrary, is supposed to have feathered his nest with some three or four millions of dollars during his rule.

The correspondent of the Times concludes his letter with the following paragraphs:

Business, which has been very much depressed all through Peru, in consequence of the revolution, will now undoubtedly revive; and it is to be hoped that that fine country may now have a slight breathing spell from intense commotion, and thus be enabled to develop her very many rich resources. The silver mines are extremely rich, and only need capital and energy to make them vastly profitable; while her gold veins would undoubtedly yield largely, were her soldiers employed in protecting miners in the Indian country where the gold exists, instead of being always engaged in cutting each others throats at the beck and behest of millitary and political aspirants. But her guano beds are far richer than either her gold veins, her silvery or cinnibar mines; and her agricultural resources are, in South America, only second to those in Chili.

The country is generally healthy, the climate mild and agreeable, and were it not for flees, which it must be said, do greatly abound, Peru would be a paradise. In Lima and vicinity it never rains, but the night mists are sufficient for agricultural and garden purposes in the vicinity. The people of Lima are gay and hospitable, but wretchedly indolent; and the the principal part of the important business of the capital, as well as of Callao, is transacted by foreigners. The French, of course, do most in the fancy line in Lima, while the English have monopolized the heavy business in both cities. Americans are scarcely in Lima, and are not very great favorites with the authorities, as we have established rather a fillibuster reputation in those "diggings"—especially since the Californians made a descent upon Ecuador with Flores, in 1852."

A CALIFORNIA HORSE STORY.—From the Editor's Table of the California Pioneer we extract the following:

'We have heard the matter discussed as to which of three or four gentlemem living, or, as the deeds have it, 'lying and being' in California, could tell the most incredible story. It has been proposed to test the relative merits by a trial on the race track at the 'Mission Dolores.' Lie and repeat—best three in five—for a purse of one thousand tickets in Duncan's last raffle. But we think we have a friend—a good natural liar, as Raldwin says—not much known just at present, whom we should enter for that struggle with considerable reliance on his native talent. He was describing to us the other day the wonderful qualites of a horse that he had trained, as he expressed it, 'to do everything. Said he, 'I taught him to sit at a bench by a table and eat boiled rice with a silver fork.' 'Impossible,' said we, 'how could a horse eat with a silver fork?' 'Well,' replied Pinto, 'hem! I don't mean exactly a silver fork—it was one of those plated ones; you know, cost about $8 a dozen.' We said no more.'

MEXICO IN PLACE OF CUBA.—The Washington correspondent of the N. O. Picayune thinks the administration has a decided preference for the acquisition of Mexican soil over that of Cuba. He says:

I think I can see in various outgivings in Executive circles evidence that the project of further acquisitions from Mexico is to be pursued by the Administration, in lieu of further pressure Cubaward. Mr. Gadsden's relation with the Mexican Government are well known to be very unfortunate now, with no prospects of their improvement. If it were otherwise, if we had a Minister at Mexico, who possessed the confidence and good will of the Government there, energetic and determined effort would secure us a commercial treaty of great advantage to both countries—a tract of land in Mexico of no use to her, and of much value to the United States, and the settlement of the claims of American citizens against the Government of Mexico, which already amount to from three to five millions of dollars—claims the justice of which would be established in any court in christendom.

These claims must be asserted and collected soon, if our Government, does its duty to its citizens; but there is little probability of any settlement ever being made, unless we take territory in pay, and assume these obligations of Mexico, as under the treaty of Guadalupe. Whether Mr. Gadsden will be able to negotiate such a treaty remains to be seen. If he cannot, he will probably see the propriety of giving the place to somebody who can. I have no hesitation in saying that neither the President nor Mr. Marcy have any confidence that he will accomplish anything more in his present position. If this proves true, and Mr. Gadsden does not come, Mr. Marcy will probably open negotiations here during the present year with the Mexican Minister, resident at Washington.

A young lady recently returned from a boarding school, being asked at the table if she would take some more cabbage, replied—"By no means, madam—gastronomical satiety admonishes me that I have arrived at the ultimate of culinary deglutination consistent with the code of Esculapius." Oh, scissors!

WOMAN'S RIGHTS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.—A Miss Caroline S. Freeman, of Manchester, New Hampshire, avows that she has certain inalienable rights, notwithstanding she was not born "a boy baby,' and among others, the right to seek as well as accept a husband. She concludes her declaration of independence as follows:

"Against those exclusive privileges on the part of the other sex, I with thousands of others of my own sex in this city, earnestly protest. And I am authorized in their name, and in their behalf, to declare that, on and after the 4th of July, A. D, 1855, we proclaim and publish to the world our independence from all such cruel and unchristian restriction. And this is to give timely notice to all single gentlemen (widowers excluded) of industrious and temperate habits in this city, that they must improve the few remaining months to the best advantage; for after the incoming of the immortal Fourth, we, the working sisterhood of Manchester, will show what woman can do in this great, heretofore restricted commerce of love,' by gallanting around modest youth, making declarations and popping questions."

JEREMY TAYLOR'S IDEA OF A FRIEND.—A friend shares my sorrow, and makes it but a moiety; but he swells my joy, and makes it double. For so two channels divide the river, and lessen it into rivulets, and make it fordable and apt to be drunk up by the first revels of the Syrian star; but two torches do not divide, but increase the flame; and though my tears are the sooner dried up when they run upon my friend's cheeks in the furrows of compassion, yet when my flame hath kindled his lamp we unite the glories and make them radient like the golden candlesticks that burn before the throne of God, because they shine by numbers, by unions, and confederation of light and harmony.

☞ Carl Benson, who does up for the New York "Spirit of the Times," the fashions and vaudevilles of Paris, writes thus of ladies' trains:

"You may recollect that ladies' trains were re-established last year for court dresses.—These trains are very stiff and voluminous affairs, and very easy to rumple; they take up as much room in a carriage, or anywhere else, as three or four people. The lady, therefore, who is going to pay her respects to their Imperial Majestier, is obliged first of all to put her husband, or whoever the accompanying man may be, on the box. Even then she cannot sit down in the carriage without mussing her accoutrements; so she does—what do you suppose? *kneels* all the way on the front seat, or on a stool between the two seats. It must be worth something to see an Empress 'at home'."

☞ There was once an itinerant preacher in West Tennessee, who possessed of considerable natural eloquence, had gradually become possessed with the idea that he was also an extraordinary biblical scholar. Under this delusion, he would very frequently at the close of his sermons, ask any member of his congregation who might have a knotty text to unravel to speak it, and he would explain it at once, however much it might have troubled "less distinguished divines." On this occasion in a large audience, he was particularly pressing for some one to propound a text, but no one presuming to do so, he was about to sit down without an opportunity of showing "his learning," when a chap back by the door announced he had a Bible matter of great "consarn" which he desired to be enlightened upon. The preacher, quite animatedly professed his willingness and ability, and the congregation was in great excitement.

"What I want to know," said the outsider, "is, whether Job's turkey was a hen or a gobler?"

The "expounder" looked confused, and the congregation tittered, as the questioner capped the climax,, by exclaiming in a loud voice:

"I fotched him down on the fust question."

From that time forward, the practice of asking for "difficult passages" was abandoned.

☞ The correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun* says:

"The President's veto message excites a deep and general feeling. It will have some political effect by creating a schism in the Democratic party, upon the question of the character of the veto power. Some of the democrats hold that this act is an abuse of the power, while they hold, also, that the President's objections to the bill are insufficient and untenable.

The two Houses cannot pass the bill over the President's head, but they will try it, and if they fail, they may, possibly, if they continue in their present temper, attach it to the civil and diplomatic bill, and force upon President Pierce the necessity of calling the new Congress. This would, however, be a disorganizing and revolutionary step. It does not follow that the President would call an extra session. In a like emergency Gen. Jackson would not have done it. Upon one occasion there was danger that some bill would fail, and it was commonly said that if it did, Gen. Jackson would carry on the government as well as he could without it.

There is really some danger that the general appropriation, bill will fail at this session, without reference to the proposed addition, to it of the French bill. It will have to bear a heavy load of extraneous matter.

A SINGULAR CHARACTER.—*His Burial.*—The Auburn Daily Advertiser mentions the death at Weedsport, Cayuga county, on 26th ult., of one Harmon Weedon, aged 86. He had acquired a handsome competency, and many years ago made all his arrangements for his burial. He constructed for himself a stone coffin of the Cayuga lime stone, well finished, the cover setting over the sides on a rabbitted shoulder, and bolted together with six half inch bolts, running through from top to bottom, and secured with counter sunk nuts. He requested to be buried in that with "his cloak wrapped around him," and no minister was to be allowed to come near him. His coffin weighed one thousand five hundred pounds, and he gave particular directions how to lower him into the grave. All of his directions were explicitly followed, and by his directions, the coffin was not only bolted but cemented together so as to be water tight.

☞ The following memorial which has been signed by numerous citizens, merchants, of New Orleans is soon to be presented to the Legislature. We hope that body will take steps to so improve navigation of this State as to relieve the difficulties at present existing:

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representative of the State of Louisiana, in General assembly convened:

The undersigned, merchants of New Orleans, respectfully represent: That, as must be well known to all members of your honorable body the commere of this city is now suffering an unexampled depression and derangement, the influence of which is felt throughout the State.

That the main cause thereof—according to the best opinions—is that 25,000 to 30,000 bales of cotton and 50,000 to 75,000 hogsheads of sugar worth $600,000 to $1,200,000, are *now due here* by the streams of our State alone; and are kept from our market by the want of navigation; and that the receipt of this produce, or even one quarter or one fifth of it, would probably, in a great degree, have relieved the distress of the city and the State at large.

That while it is conceded that a large portion of this could not, owing to the want of water, have been brought here by this time, it is believed that if our low water navigation had been improved, as it might have been, a sufficiency would gradually have arrived to have prevented, in a measure if not altogether the above mentioned derangement, disaster and distress.

Wherefore your memorialists pray that your honorable body may adopt such legislation as will, so far as possible, prevent a recurrence of their misfortunes and improve permanently the navigation of the State,

DEATH OF THE LAST SURVIVOR OF BRADDOCK'S DEFEAT.—Ishmael Titus, a colored man, supposed to be one hundred and nine or ten years of age, died at Williamstown, Mass., on the 27th ult. A correspondent of the Springfield Republican says that Titus was the last survivor of Braddock's defeat. He was a slave in Virginia, and when Gen. Braddock set out on his ill-fated expedition, the master of Ishmael was employed by the commissary to transport subsistence stores for the army; and as the wagon was heavily loaded an additional horse was added to the team, and the boy Ishmael was placed on this third horse as a rider; and in that capacity he followed the army to the scene of its disaster. He ran away from his master at the close of the revolution, and has since resided in the vicinity of Williamstown.

AMUSING COURT SCENES.—At the first Circuit Court in Washington county held by Judge John Reynolds, the Sheriff, on opening the Court, went out into the court yard and said to the people, 'Boys, come in, our John is going to hold Court.'

This reminds us of a good one we heard on Judge Huntington, now U. S. District Judge, when he was Presiding Judge of this Circuit. The Judge, as many of our readers are aware, is a very affable gentleman off the bench, but on the bench he is a great stickler for the *dignity* of the Court. While holding Court at Bowling Green, in the adjoining county of Clay, some years ago, in a log cabin, the Judge, Attorney, and others in the room, were startled by a succession of sharp cracks not unlike musket shots, accompanied by unearthly shouts from stentorian lungs of 'Goe—woo a—Haw, boys!' The business of the Court had to be suspended, and the Judge angrily directed the Sheriff to bring in the tumultuous Ox-driver. The Sheriff soon returned with a rare specimen of the *genus* 'Hoosier,' upwards of six feet high, with a fox skin cap tight on his head, and tan colored garments hanging loosely on his person; in one hand he held the causes of the explosions, in the shape of a whip as long as a fishing pole; from under his arm protruded a half section of gingerbread. He walked coolly up to the table behind which his Honor sat as if about to ask for something to drink, when the Judge, putting on his severest frown said to him, 'What do you mean, sir, by yelling through the streets, and disturbing the quiet and dignity of this Court?' The Hoosier started around in utter amazement, and after a pause, shouted out, '*Court!*—Court did you say, (giving a long whistle)—H—ll! *I thought it was a Grocery!*'

The dignity of the Judge was completely unshipped—Court adjourned amid roars of laughter—the culprit was not fined for contempt, but the Board of County Commissioners of Clay county soon afterwards passed an order for the erection of a Court-House, that could not be mistaken for a Grocery.—*Gov. Ford's History of Illinois.*

SLOOP-OF-WAR ALBANY.—The Pensacola Democrat, in noticing the arrival of the U. S. steamship Princeton from Key West, (before reported,) says:

The Princeton has been cruising in search of the U. S. sloop-of-war Albany, no tidings of the fate of which vessel have been learned, and the hope of their safety or even of her existence above the surface of the sea, has been generally abandoned.

A BRITISH KNOW-NOTHING.—The following paragraph is from American jottings by William Chambers, which appear in the Journal which bears his name. He promises to give in a future number, a paper upon the national movement in this country:

Myriads of ignorant and excitable foreigners the refuse of Europe, too easily admitted to the rights of citizenship, are undoubtedly the pest of this great and prosperous community; guided by passion, and suffering themselves to become the instrument of native place-hunting politicians, they assault and intimidate, or at least keep away from the poll, many of the peaceably disposed inhabitants. Practically, through the agency of this base element in the population, a condition of things is produced such as has been hinted at in my previous account of New York; and which struck me as the nearest approach to an abdication of public authority.

☞ The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer says:

Satisfactory progress is making towards a settlement of our claims on Spain. Despatches received here state that indemnity will be granted in all leading cases. The new Minister, Hon. A. C. Dodge, will sail in March with instructions to pursue the demands of this Government with energy.