

stable belong to Mr. Ezekiel Barlow, which received particular attention from his neatly dressed Mulatto servant.

On the east side of the school house was a low, black looking cottage which stood, from the sidewalk to the eve of the roof, about eight feet, and which was owned and occupied by Mrs. Gabel* who had a bakery in the rear and who sold bread and gingerbread in large square cakes for a penny a cake, as well as a variety of other cakes, and when the boys could command a few coppers or pennies they were good customers to the old woman.

At that time there were very few buildings in that locality, the principal one being Hopley's, on the corner of Sydney and Union streets, called the Golden Ball corner, with a bright ball hanging out from the house. In front of that house on Sydney street were posts with a rail on top, in which hooks were placed for the benefit of horsemen, who could jump from their carriages or dismount, fasten their horses and enter the shop or saloon kept by Mr. Hopley. Adjoining that building, on Union street, stood the Theatre, which was occasionally occupied (as we thought) by fairly good actors as well as a menagerie.† As the rear of the theatre was not very tightly constructed, the boys, who could not always get money to purchase tickets to enter by the front, would frequently enter by the rear and climb up, unobserved, and take their seats gratis. I have no doubt there are boys in the present day, if such an opportunity offered, who would be guilty of the same bad habit.

Union street at that time was also noted for its principal watering place, especially for horses, which

* David Gabel, one of the Dutch from New York, was a pioneer baker of St. John. He died in 1816 at the age of 81. The Mrs. Gabel mentioned in the sketch may have been his son's wife.—EDITOR.

† John Hopley came from Ireland about 1815, and built the Golden Ball tavern. The date of the building of the horse theatre was about 1822.—EDITOR.