

## EARLY TIMES IN INDIANA.

From the Cincinnati News.

Said Major Oudesly as he casually dropped in on us yesterday morning, and commenced talking away in his usual quiet, chatty and peculiar manner.

'I'm sick and tired of this artificial way of doing things in these latter days.'

'Why so Major?'

'There is an eternal sight too much parade about every thing that is going on. I was at a wedding the other night—the daughter of an old and much esteemed friend was to be married, and I was so urgently invited that I couldn't help going; there was so much fuss and parade I was perfectly disgusted. I couldn't help comparing the proceedings where a couple were married in Lawrenceburgh many years ago, when Indiana formed part of the North Western Territory.—At that time the settlements of the emigrants were mostly confined to the rich bottom lands of the water course. Lawrenceburgh was then a small village with a few log cabins. My father was acting magistrate for the district, and very promptly attended to all the various duties of that office, in addition to which he was in the habit of doing a good deal of manual labor on his own hook.'

'That was when you wasn't big enough to do much, Major.'

'Exactly, I was a tow-brat of some eight or ten years old, when the incident I am about to narrate occurred, but I remember all the particulars as well as though it occurred but yesterday.'

You see it was about dinner time one day in the fall of the year, when the old man being engaged in laying in a supply of wood for the winter, drove up his ox team with a pretty solid load of fuel.

'Just then a young and unsophisticated couple entered the village, hand in hand, inquired for the Squire, and were duly directed to the house. The youth was barefooted, and wore a coarse, but clean, tow linen shirt and pants, and a rough straw hat of home manufacture. His fair companion was dressed in a blue striped cotton frock, pink cotton apron, fine bonnet, and coarse brogan shoes without stockings.

'These were their wedding dresses, and their severe simplicity and the thorough independence they manifested made an impression upon my mind that will never be effaced.

'We come to get married,' said the young man to the old lady, my mother, who was properly busy among the pots and kettles.

'That's very good business,' said the old lady smiling graciously, 'tho' you appear to look rather young, but there's the Squire just drove up, he'll sphee you in less than no time,' so out she bolted to give that important functionary due notice of the business in hand.

'I can't stop till I unlode this wood,' said the old man, 'tell them to come out here.'

And out they came—the old man was on the top of the cart, and every time he threw off a stick he asked a question. Before he was fairly unladen he had the youth's whole story, having ascertained their names, ages and residence of the parties, how long he had known the young woman, if he really loved her, was willing to labor honestly to promote her happiness, &c. The youngster gave satisfactory answers to all the questions propounded.

'In the meantime, the old lady perfectly understanding Dad's way of doing things, had sent out to say to the people that there was a wedding coming off at the house, and by the time the wood was unloaded, quite a crowd had collected to witness the ceremony.

'The old fellow having pitched out his last stick, and picked up his long

goad, stood up in the cart and commenced the performance.

'Jest jine your hands,' said he to the young couple.

'I'm satisfied with both of ye,' continued he, 'you've a perfect right to get married,' and he united them in short order.

'As the rafters on this house are jined together, so jine I you—you are man and wife—salute your bride.—I don't charge anything for the operation. Whoa, haw, Buck, get along, Bright'—and with an eloquent flourish of his long stick, he started for another load of wood leaving the newly wedded pair amid the villagers, kissing each other with very distinct and particular evidence of satisfaction.

'That was a wedding worth having,' said Major Oudesly; I knew the couple afterwards, and know them yet, for they are both living in a high state of prosperity. And I know their children after them, too, and mighty fine children they are, for one of them is at this very time Governor of the State of Indiana.

*Hoing Colopuy.*—'Peter—Peter, I see a toad,' said a little darkey to his brother, one day, as they were digging over a heap of manure.

'Where?—where am he, Joe?'

'Why right dar—don't ye see 'im, Peter?'

'No I doesn't see 'im—strike him wid de hoe.'

Joe hit the toad a crack, which brought Peter to the ground.

'Oh! you darned fool Joe! dat was my toe; I see'd dat all de time.'

Said a fly when he fell into the milk. 'Why am I like an unlucky mariner? Because I have found a watery grave.'—That was a smart fly, and knew as much as some milkmen do.'

At a dinner of the Cincinnati firemen, recently, the following sentiment was proposed: 'The ladies: Their eyes kindle the only flame which we cannot extinguish, and against which there is no insurance.'

A son of Chin, just arrived in this land of plenty, being in want, ventured to solicit a little aid from a person whose external appearance seemed to indicate that he could easily afford it. He was, however, rudely repulsed with a 'Go to h—ll.' Pat looked at him in such a way as to fix his attention, and meekly replied, 'God bless your honor for your civility; you're the first gentleman that's invited me to his father's house since I came to the land.'

A curious story has lately been circulated respecting the king of Bavaria, who is said to have dreamed that he saw three rats, one of which was very fat another very lean, and the last stone blind. The king sought an explanation of his dream, and was informed by a gypsy that the fat rat represented his favorite, *Lola Montes*, the lean one his *People*, and the blind one himself.

Major—, when a youth, entered a Quaker meeting house, and holding up a penny tart, exclaimed—'The one that first breaks silence shall have this tart!'

One of the elders present instinctively rose, and in a tone of dignified rebuke, commenced with—'Young man, the time may come when thou—'

'The tart is yours, sir!' cried the intruder so accosted, at the same time laying it down before his solemn interlocutor, and hastily effected his escape.

'Digby, will you take some of this butter?' 'Thank you marm, I belong to the Temperance Society, and can't take any thing *strong*,' replied Digby.

## A FEW DIRECTIONS TO RAIL-ROAD TRAVELLERS!

Having your valise in one hand and your umbrella in the other, make a grand rush for the steps; if you knock over an old lady and two or three little girls, so much the better; it will teach them to keep out of the way another time. Having thus secured an early entrance into the cars you will have an opportunity to select the most commodious seats; every gentleman will of course expect at least two seats. Put your valise on the inside one, take the other side yourself, with your umbrella by way of barrier on the outside—and it will require uncommon boldness to attack a fortress thus guarded. After having thus disposed of yourself and chattels, you will place one foot on the seat in front, and then proceed to take a large mouthful of tobacco—every gentleman will of course provide himself with a good stock of this fragrant weed. As expectoration is considered wholesome, and you will proceed to discharge your saliva, if the day be warm and pleasant, on the floor of the car; if it should be cold and stormy, it will be judicious to open the window, and let drive in that direction. If the conductor is not on the watch, you may perhaps contrive to get a whiff of a cigar, which will add much to the comfort of the passengers.—If you see a lady entering opposite you unprotected, particularly if she is pretty and embarrassed, stretch yourself back in your two seats and stare at her until some green horn not as knowing as yourself gives up his seat for her accommodation. If you get tired with one position you can relieve yourself by running your feet out at length across the passage. This affords great amusement to the passengers, as it almost infallibly trips up some infirm old gentleman in haste to get out at a way station.

Should a newspaper boy pass you, you of course have no change, but as soon as your next neighbor buys a paper, you will naturally beg to look at it a moment to see the ship news. You will then settle yourself comfortably to peruse it—after having mastered its contents, you will then deliberately fold it up, hold it in your hand, and tell its owner all the news you have read, item by item. He must be an unconscious dog, indeed, if he is not pleased to be saved the trouble of reading his own paper.

Should your next neighbor be reading a book with apparent interest, you will find it a very pleasant way of passing the time, to address him various suggestions and interrogatories, such as the following; a fine day to-day; rather cold last night. How far have you come in the cars? Any news in your quarter? Does the potato rot prevail in your district? A rail-road is a wonderful invention. This is a great country, &c., &c.; and any other equally profound remarks, all which will serve to amuse yourself and enlighten your neighbor. Or we have seen it answer a good purpose to take the book, with a civil nod, out of his hand, as if to see what it is. If you like it you can read it through, as if you are well aware that the owner will have plenty of time to read it after he gets home.

A lady called at one of our stores a day or two since and inquired of a young clerk for 'cruel.'

Not willing to appear ignorant nor exactly comprehending her, he handed down a regular twisted cowskin.

'Why,' says the lady, 'that is not what I want.'

'Well,' replied the boy, 'that is the *cruellist* thing I know any thing about.'

'Deth is the wages of sin.' That's poor pay. Wonder that more people don't quit sinning, and stand out for higher pay.

## GUIDE IN BUYING A HORSE.

A correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer*, contrary to old maxims, undertakes to judge the character of a horse by outward appearances, and offers the following suggestions, as the result of his close observation and long experience;—

If the color be light sorrel or chestnut, his feet, legs and face white, these are marks of kindness.

If he is broad and full between the eyes, he may be depended upon as a horse of good sense, and capable of being trained to anything.

As respects such horses, the more kindly you treat them, the better you will be treated in return. Nor will a horse of that description stand the whip if well fed.

If you want a safe horse, avoid one that is dish-faced; he may be so far gentle as not to scare, but he will have too much go-ahead in him to be safe for every body.

If you want a foal, but a horse of great bottom, get a deep bay, with not a white hair about him; if his face is a little dishd, so much the worse. Let no man ride such a horse who is not an adept in riding—they are always tricky and unsafe.

If you want a horse that will never give out, never buy a large overgrown one. A black horse cannot stand heat, nor a white one cold.

If you want a gentle horse, get one with more or less white about him—the more the better. A spotted one is preferable. Many suppose that the particular colored horses belonging to the circuses, shows, &c., are selected for their oddity. But the selection thus made is on account of their great docility and gentleness.

**COUGH IN HORSES.**—The boughs of the common cedar, cut fine, and mixed with the food of horses, are said to be an effectual remedy for the troublesome and very prevalent disease called "cough."

## DEPTH OF THE SEA.

With regard to the depth of this body of water, no certain conclusions have yet been formed. Beyond a certain depth it has hitherto been found unfathomable. We know, in general, that the depth of the sea increases gradually as we leave the shore; but we have reason to believe that this increase of depth continues only to a certain distance. The numerous islands scattered everywhere through the ocean demonstrate that the bottom of the waters, so far from uniformly sinking, sometimes rises into lofty mountains. It is highly probable that the depth of the sea is somewhat in proportion to the elevation of the land; for there is some reason to conclude that the present bed of the ocean formed the inhabited part of the ancient world previous to the general deluge, and that we are now occupying the bed of the former ocean; and if so, its greatest depth will not exceed four or five miles; for there is no mountain that rises higher above the level of the sea. But the sea has never been sounded to a greater depth than one mile and 66 feet. Along the coast its depth has always been found proportioned to the height of the shore; where the coast is high and mountainous, the sea that washes it is deep; but where the coast is low, the water is shallow. To calculate the quantity of water it contains, we must therefore suppose a medium depth. If we reckon its average depth at two miles, it will contain 296,000,000 of cubical miles of water. We shall have a more specific idea of this enormous mass of water, if we consider that it is sufficient to cover the whole globe to the height of more than 8000 feet, and if this water was reduced to one spherical mass, it would form a globe of more than 8000 miles in diameter.