

have done had I stolen a sheep. I finally got safely beyond the limits of the town; but in passing through another town, I had necessarily to go close to the church, in passing which I was hailed from the front door. I cast a furtive glance in that direction, and saw a long-spliced Yankee coming towards me. I spurred up the pony, and kept out of Yankee's reach. Soon finding that his long legs could not overtake my nimble horse, he went back, and mounted a fine horse in the church shed, and gave me chase. By this time my horse was on the keen jump. Had the tithing-man been a good rider, he would have overtaken me; as it was, after pursuing about two miles, he gave up the chase and returned. We made more disturbance along the road than an army would have made if allowed to pass unmolested. I arrived at my sister's that night, and left early the next morning for the State of New York. My business took me off the main travelled road from Boston to Albany and when I regained it, I learned that a tithing-man and several assistants had passed in hot pursuit, but I was too smart for them, and evaded them all. It was at that time a violation of law for a traveller to journey on the Sabbath in Massachusetts, and if he could not be arrested on that day by the tithing-man, he could be followed and apprehended anywhere within the State. When I crossed the State line, and got into New York, I felt greatly relieved. I was then in the land of freedom, and out of reach of oppression.

I did not re-visit my native state until twenty-four years after my runaway. Everything had changed; the obnoxious laws that had driven me from the land of my nativity had been repealed, and more liberal ideas prevailed.

After my *hegira*, I stopped at Troy, on the Hudson, the population of which, at that time, was about two thousand. Thence I went to Saratoga Springs, which had one public house and about two hundred inhabitants; after remaining there three months, I went to Utica, which had a population of about twelve hundred. I tarried there a short time, and went to Homer, Cortland County, remaining there a year;