

# A TALE.

## THE CHRISTIAN MAIDEN.

BY MARY V. SPENCER.

"Away with her—she blasphemes the gods—let her be cast to the lions!"

It was a high day in Carthage. The sun shone with unclouded splendor on the white palaces that glittered along the beautiful bay of the Numidian city. The streets were thronged with the populace in gala dresses, for it was a festival in honor of the gods. Towards the great halls of justice a crowd poured continually, though the avenues leading to it were blocked up; but the rumor had gone abroad that a Nazarene maiden was that day to be tried, and the public curiosity was alive to behold her demeanor or hear her fate.

Within the hall there was scarcely room to stir. A dense mass of spectators filled it to suffocation, and it was with difficulty that the officers could keep the crowd from encroaching on the space reserved for the judges. The most intense excitement pervaded the apartment. The audience as if impatient of control, heaved to and fro, and more than once an ineffectual attempt was made to rush on the prisoner, while ever and anon the shouts would rise from the crowd.

"Away with her—she blasphemes the gods—let her be cast to the lions!"

The object of this angry cry was a girl, scarcely yet in her eighteenth summer, and surprisingly beautiful. She stood at the bar with clasped hands and uplifted eyes, her lips moving as if in prayer, apparently regardless alike of the howls of the mob and the angry looks of the judges.

"Wilt thou sacrifice? Again I ask thee, wilt thou sacrifice?" said the praetor sternly;—remember—refuse is death—the emperor is inexorable."

The maiden convulsively wrung her hands, and a large tear-drop started in her eye. A breathless silence ensued. Notwithstanding the cries for blood, the spectators were agitated by many and various emotions. Some were secretly favorable to the new religion, and other pitied the accused on account of her youth and beauty, but at least half of the audience were bigoted Pagans and thirsted for her death. These being the most brutal, had the ascendancy, as every popular tumult. But all kept silence now, awed by the feelings of suspense which ever attends the crisis of another's fate or our own.

To the maiden those few moments of silence were crowded with recollections. The events of her whole life rushed past her. She saw once more the pleasant valley where she had spent her childhood. She heard its cool waters, the rustle of its palm trees, the tinkle of its sheep bells on the distant hill. Then other associations rose up before her. She saw herself attacked by an angry wild beast, and saved only by the javelin of a chance traveller, a young Numidian hunter.

The gratitude, deepening into love, which ensued; the mutual pledge of fidelity till death; their separation in consequence of his entering the army, and being ordered to the German frontier with his cohort, moving before her like scenes in a magic phantasmagoria. Then came her conversion to christianity, her secret baptism in an upper chamber where the persecuted sect met, her arrest and imprisonment, and now this scene! She felt that she stood alone, with no friend nor relative to advise; an orphan, poor, and of a despised religion. Oh! if her brave soldier had been there, she knew she would have one bosom to lean on in this terrible crisis. But no pitying eye looked on her from the crowd, and seas rolled betwixt her and her bold lover. Yet, though thus deserted her faith did not desert her. In earnest prayer she sought strength from heaven, and he who stood by Polycearp among the lions heard her cry. The momentary weakness brought on by her recollections of how many dear ties yet bound her to earth disappeared, and she looked firmly at the judge, her form erect, and her eye like that of Stephen when he confronted his murderers.

"Wilt thou sacrifice? I ask for the third and last time," demanded the praetor. "Cast incense on the altar of Jupiter and thou shalt be saved. Refuse and thou diest ere high noon!"

The spectators bent eagerly forward and held their breaths, to catch the maiden's answer.

"I am a believer in Christ," she said calmly; "Him whom ye call the Nazarene. I cannot sacrifice to false gods. Do with me as you will."

There was something so meek, yet dignified and courageous in these words that the mob's fury was for a moment choked in admiration. But their heathen prejudices and thirst for blood soon attained the ascendancy of better feeling. A low sullen murmur ran through the crowd like the half stifled growl of a famished wild beast, which gradually deepened into a shout; and then came execrations and cries for vengeance.

"Away with her—she blasphemes the gods—let her be cast to the lions!" roared the angry multitude.

"Thou hast chosen thy fate," said the judge rising. "Away with her to the lions."

The maiden turned deadly pale, but, though only a weak woman, she evinced no other sign of horror or fear. When the soldiers approached to seize her, she shuddered for an instant, as if she already felt the fangs of the lions; but immediately this trace of emotion vanished, and she signed for them to lead on. Yet there was still left one mortal feeling in her bosom. As she stepped from the bar she shrouded her face in her veil to conceal it from the gaze of the crowd.

"To the lions with her! Let her be cast to them at once. Hail for the amphitheatre!" shouted the crowd, rushing tumultuously after the condemned maiden, struggling and fighting with each other to get near that they might spit upon the prisoner, and now and then lashing themselves into a fury so great that it was with difficulty the soldiers could keep the mob from tearing her limb from limb. The slight frame of the maiden now shook perceptibly with terror, for though she had nerved herself

to face the lions, her virgin delicacy shrank from being made the victim of a coarse and brutish rabble.

In this manner her conductors struggled through the streets, until in sight of the amphitheatre. Here, at the corner of one of the ways, they were met by a vast crowd composed of the lowest mob of the city, who hearing of the condemnation of a Nazarene, had gathered together ripe for mischief. Led on by some of the vilest of their demagogues, they had resolved to assail the officers in charge of the prisoner, that they might sacrifice her more summarily than by the lions in the arena.

"Stand back!" said the captain of the guard, unsheathing his sword, as he saw the threatening aspect of the crowd.

"Down with him!" cried one of the rabble, hurling a missile at his head. "Give us the prisoner, or you die with her."

"Close in, men, close in!" shouted the officer undauntedly. "You pay with your lives for the safety of the prisoner."

The little band gathered in a compact circle round the maiden, and prepared to maintain the unequal contest.

"Down with them all," shouted one of the most prominent of the rioters, "soldiers and prisoner—they are all secretly Nazarenes.—Down with them."

With these words he headed a rush of the crowd, that bore back the scanty band of the soldiery like feathers that are swept by the gale. Stones and bricks, meanwhile, filled the air, though the soldiers were defended by shields, several were wounded. The prisoner, in this onset, would have fallen a victim to the missiles of the mob, but for two of the more humane of the soldiery, who covered with their bucklers. Thus pushed back by the rabble, the guards retreated against the wall of a neighboring house, and being now covered in the rear, essayed with more hopes of success to make good their stand until succor should arrive from the city legions.

But the fulfilment of this hope was soon apparent. The mob swelled rapidly, extending far down the thoroughfares on either hand. The whole city seemed up. There were doubtless among the crowd many who were secretly favorable to the prisoner, and a still greater number who wished not to see her perish except by a lawful death, but the more violent, if not most numerous, had attained the temporary ascendancy, and the others, uncertain of their power, were afraid to move in her behalf.

More than half of the guard had now fallen; the others were worn out and wounded. The soldiers began to murmur.

"Why should we die to protect for an hour or two the life of a Nazarene?" cried one of them. "Comrades, let us surrender her to the people."

A sullen murmur of assent ran along the scanty ranks, and the mob, hearing the mutinous words, desisted, and broke into huzzas.—The maiden saw that her hour had come, and sank shuddering to her knees, lifting her agonized eyes to heaven in a last appeal. Suddenly, over the deep roar of the huzzas, rose the trumpet of cavalry, and the pavement seemed to the kneeling girl to rock beneath her, under the tramp of many horsemen. She started to her feet with sudden hope. The shouts of the populace had ceased simultaneously, and now was heard, close at hand, the clatter of hoofs and the shrill sound of the trumpet. Like a flock of sheep awaiting the approach of wolves, stood the late riotous mob; now silent, with black faces, and standing agape at the sudden apparition of the horsemen. Down they came, the solid earth shaking under them; while far in the van, on a barred horse, rose the voice of their leader.

"Disperse ye knaves!" he cried, in a tone used to command, as he rose haughtily in his stirrups. "Disperse, or we ride you down." And turning to his troops, he waved his sword and shouted.

"Charge!" The word struck terror into the populace.—For one instant they hesitated, but for one instant only. Up the long avenue, to where it turned to the left, they beheld the glittering lines of cavalry advancing at a gallop, each file wheeling around continuously as if countless numbers yet remained behind, and at the sight the stoutest hearts gave way. The cry "fly for your lives," rose on every hand, and, darting into the bye-streets or rushing head-long down the main thoroughfare, the mob dispersed with the rapidity of magic. By the time the leader of the cavalry had come up, the street was empty.

Throwing his proud steed back on his haunches as he reached the guard, the commander of the cohort addressed his brother officer.

"We were just in time, I see. I heard, on landing, that there was a riot in the city, and the cause, and I galloped at once thither. We are to-day come from Italy; and I bring important news. Diocletian is dead, and the persecutions against the Christians are to be stopped. It is well we came up as we did."

He would have spoken further, but at this instant his attention was arrested by a shriek from the prisoner and the mention of his own name. He turned quickly around, and for the first time his eyes fell on the maiden. Quick as lightning he leaped from his horse, flinging the bridle to the nearest by-stander, he rushed towards her.

"Julia! Antony!" were the mutual exclamations of the lovers as they fell into each other's arms; for it was the Numidian hunter, now risen to high rank, who had thus opportunely arrived to rescue his mistress.

Language would be too weak to describe that meeting. In haste the lover ordered a chariot to be brought for Julia, and by his commands she conveyed to the house of the praetor, whose wife took charge of the orphan girl. The intelligence of Diocletian's death spread with inconceivable rapidity, and those who were favorable to the Christians, now spoke boldly out. The great mass of the influential citizens, as usual, sided with the new order of things. The tide of opinion turned. And the mob, finding their ascendancy over, sullenly submitted, like wild beasts confined to the limits of their cage and refrained from harm.

The young officer himself soon became a Christian, his conversion to that faith being

doubtless attributable to the example and arguments of Julia.

On the pleasant shores of the Numidian bay stand the ruins of a once splendid palace.—Tradition says that there lived the Christian maiden and her puissant husband, the hero and heroine of our story.

## Queensware & Glassware.

THE subscriber has now on hand a large and complete assortment of Queensware and Glassware of new style and patterns, among which are

Common, printed and China Teas, do do do Tea pots, Sugar and Creams.

C. C. printed & drab Pitchers & Bowls, C. C. Edged and Printed Plates, Twiflers, and Muffins,

C. C. edged and printed Dishes, Packers and Nappies, China, Blue raised, figure and printed Tea Sets

Plain and pressed Tumblers, Moulded salts, peppers and vinegars, do Preserve dishes and cup plates, Moirasse Cans, &c.

All of which will be sold at the lowest prices for Cash or approved paper.

COUNTRY MERCAANTS, HOTEL Keepers, and others wishing to purchase are invited to call and examine the stock.

W. S. SAMPSON. No. 88 Main street, East side, 3 doors below Third street, Cincinnati. May 23, 1844. 22-ly.

## NEW GOODS.

THE Subscribers have just received a large stock of—

Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, Fur and Wool

Hats, Fine Caps, Iron, Nails, Cotton Yarns, Sole and Upper

Leather, Salt, &c.

All of which will be sold at the Cincinnati Prices, adding carriage only on heavy articles. Those wishing to buy Goods will find it to their interest to call and examine our Goods before they make other purchases.

R. & S. TYNER. Brookville, Oct. 3, 1843.

## PORTRAIT PAINTING.

THE undersigned has taken a room in the Court House, and is pursuing the line of his profession, he invites the public to call and see his portraits that he has on hand, believing that he will be patronized when his reasonable terms become known and his likenesses have been examined.

J. B. GOODWIN. Brookville, May 22, 1844.

GREAT AMERICAN FAMILY NEWSPAPER. NEW YORK SATURDAY EMPORIUM

A WEEKLY MISCELLANEOUS JOURNAL OF Literature, Agriculture, the Mechanic and fine Arts, Political Economy, Criticism, Metropolitan Life, Domestic and Foreign news, Political and Commercial Intelligence, Statistics, Tales, Poetry, Music, Engravings, &c. NEUTRAL IN POLITICS & RELIGION.

EDITED BY EDMUND B. GREEN. THE subscribers have made arrangements to publish, in the City of New York, a Weekly Newspaper, under the title of the "SATURDAY EMPORIUM." It will be printed on a folio sheet of the largest dimensions, embracing THIRTY SIX columns of reading matter. The quality of the paper and the typographical execution will be of the most superior character.

The first Number will be published on Saturday, June 30th.

As a full, comprehensive, miscellaneous newspaper, the Emporium shall not be surpassed by any other in the U. States. It will embrace everything that can be brought within the range of the Newgatherer, the Literature, the letter Writer, the Poet, Philosopher and Critic. It will present a daguerreotype view of Life as it is—Men as they are—Matters and Things as they seem—and nothing shall be wanting to make it a desirable

## NEWSPAPER FOR FAMILIES.

As it shall be unexceptionable in all respects. It is intended to invest it with that kind of well written miscellany which will render it eminent ly calculated to supply the wants of both city and country readers—affording an agreeable amount of choice variety, with matter of a more solid and important character.

The Editorial department is placed in the hands of a gentleman whose abilities and experience as an Editor & writer are well known by the American public. In discharging the duties connected with that department, he will receive, and unite with his own time and personal attention, the aid of some of the best talent in the country.

A striking feature in the general character of the Saturday Emporium, will be its bold and energetic

SKETCHES OF METROPOLITAN LIFE.

These will appear from time to time, illustrated by engravings, and will form a new era in the developments of society, civil, social and domestic, political and public life. The evils abounding in fashionable society will be unmasked, the deep degradation of the abandoned made visible, the spirit of licentiousness which prevails to an alarming extent in all classes of the community, walking abroad at noonday with a bold front and impudent air, will be rebuked and held up for public execration. And in fine public abuses and private evils, of whatever name or nature, will be confronted and exposed and whatever may tend to promote the public welfare shall receive encouragement & support. The publishers will spare neither labor nor expense in furnishing the public with a paper which shall be unequalled, in any attainable point of excellence, by any similar publication in the world.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS per annum, in advance. Letters on business must be post paid, in order to receive attention. Address WARD & COMPANY. June 6, 1844. 30 Ann street N. Y.

## NEW GOODS.

BANES & HURTON beg leave to inform their customers and the public in general, that they have just received a large and splendid assortment of seasonable goods, (which they are determined to sell low) consisting in part of

Wool Dye, Blue Black Cloth. " " Blue do. " " Green, do. " " Brown do. " " Cadet Mixed do. " " Invisible G'n do. " " Drab do. " " Steel Mixed do.

Fancy and plain Casimers, 25 P's. Satinets, consisting of Black, Blue Steel Cadet and Sheep mixed, Exchequer, Diamond, striped and Plaid Fancies.

8 P's. Kentucky Janes, Beverten and Zebra Cloth.

15 P's. Summer Janes, Plain, Striped and Plaid Pantalons and Coat Linens.

10 P's. Alpaca Luster, Changeable Striped and Plain, Bombazines, Balzarines,

Lawn Gingham, Plain Black Lustrating Silk, 10 P's. Gro de Nap, Bonnet Silks,

White and Colored Florence and Satin, Fancy Gimps and Fringe, Mouslin de Lane Shawls,

Cambric Hemstitched and Silk Handkerchiefs, Thread Jacksonett & Cotton Edging,

Footings and Lace, Gloves and Mitts, Fashionable Bonnet & Cap Robbons,

Cambric, Jacksonett, Book, Swiss and Mull Muslins, Bishop Lewens,

Earlstone & Manchester Gingham, Mouslin & Crape de Lane, Woolen do do

200 P's. Splendid prints, 25 " Blue do

15 " Ticking, 20 " Bleached Muslin,

15 " Marseilles Vestings, 24 " Linen Table Cloths,

10 " Superior Irish Linen, Ladies & Childrens Hose, Gentlemen's 1-2 Hose,

Together with a large assortment of Goods too tedious to enumerate.

—ALSO— 25 Cases BOOTS and SHOES, containing a large and splendid assortment of Shoes, for Men, Women and Children.

10 Cases of Fashionable Hats, 2 Cases Wool Hats,

3 Cases of Palm Hats, 2 Cases of Bonnets,

7 Packages of Hardware, containing a full assortment. 1,000 lbs. Eastern SOLE LEATHER tanned with Spanish Oak Bark.

1 Doz. Philadelphia Calf skins. A large and splendid assortment of Queensware just opened.

A large supply of Groceries, Nails, Cotton Yarn, Tin and Earthenware constantly on hand.

Brookville, May 24, 1844 No. 22—ly.

Cheap and Substantial Book-Binding, AT G. DICKINSON & CO.'S BOOK STORE AND BOOK-BINDERY.

No. 10, West Third Street, Cincinnati. G. DICKINSON returns thanks to his friends for the favors they have so liberally bestowed on him for nearly five years, and begs to assure them no effort shall be wanting on his part to merit a continuance of them, both in reference to workmanship and cheapness of price to suit the times.

Good books deserve good binding; did they contain the power of speech as well as all manner of tongues, how many tales of woe would they relate to us of the neglect and destruction they have suffered merely for the want of a decent exterior, which might have been supplied for a few shillings, and would have secured to him the intimacy and friendship of future generations.

Gentlemen residing at a distance, experiencing a difficulty in getting their Binding, will find it to their advantage by packing and directing them as above, style and price; they may rely upon their being well bound, at the lowest prices, and carefully packed and returned without delay. In all such cases, the owner will be charged with freight, and an order for payment for the binding, on a bank or firm in Cincinnati, is required.

## DR. W. MOORE.

HAVING permanently located himself in the town of Brookville, respectfully tenders his professional services to the public.—He hopes from a thorough knowledge of the various branches of his profession, a long and extensive practice in the fevers incident to the west, and especially his skill in obstetrics, and the treatment of the diseases of women and children, (having devoted much of his time, both in study and practice, to that branch of the profession) to merit, and receive a liberal share of patronage from a generous public.—Bills to suit the times.

Residence on Main Street, immediately South of the residence of Mr. J. W. Hunt; and opposite the new brick building of Mr. S. Tyner.

Brookville, May 1st, 1844. 19-3m.

DR. R. E. PUTNEY'S Fever & Ague and Chills & Fever PILLS—Warranted to Cure the longest standing cases.

CAN be had at the store of Mr. Thos. Fitten, Rochester, and Mr. M. W. Haile, Brookville—my sole agents in Franklin county, Indiana. R. E. PUTNEY.

N. B. If the directions are strictly followed and no cure effected, no charges will be made.

R. E. P. Sept. 6, 1843. 37-lyr.

## MACHINE CARDS.

JUST received from the manufacturers, on consignment, a lot of Machine Cards, for SALE FOR CASH.

PRICE & LINDSEY. Brookville, April 8, 1844. 16-ly.

## TIN WARE! TIN WARE!

JOHN H. FUDGE still continues to keep on hand, at his shop in Brookville, an excellent assortment of Tin Ware. He always procures the best stock, and never allows a job to go from his shop unless it be done in the best and most substantial manner. For the truth of this he refers to those who have patronized him for the last six years. He sells wholesale or retail at Cincinnati prices, for Cash only.

He also keeps constantly on hand the IMPROVED PREMIUM COOKING STOVE,

which is now decidedly the best Stove in use. He is also prepared to make Spouts, Spout heads, and mend Tin, Brass, or Copper Ware. His shops adjoining, (in the rear) Mr. Haile's drug Store.

Country Merchants would do well to call and examine his ware and his prices. February 21, 1844 9-ly

## COMMISSION & FORWARDING BUSINESS AT NEW ORLEANS.

THE undersigned having established himself at New Orleans, for the purpose of acting a General Commission and Forwarding Business, would solicit a share of Franklin and adjoining counties. I have made advantageous arrangements with a good Insurance Office here, for Insuring Hay, and all other Produce shipped per Flat Boat, which will be effected by writing to me, if I am acquainted with the applicant.

All business entrusted to me shall be faithfully and promptly attended to. THOMAS GUARD. New Orleans, No. 26, New Levee.

REFER TO:— C. F. CLARKSON, Esq., } Brookville. Messrs. R. & S. TYNER. } January, 1844. 5-ly

## JUST RECEIVED, And for sale by N. D. Gallion.

100 Bbls. of Salt, 5 Do Molasses, 3 Hhds. of Sugar, 1 Tierce of Rice, 30 Sacks of Coffee, 20 Kgs of Nails, 4 Do Tobacco.

—ALSO— A lot of Shovels and Spades, Drawing Chains, Upper and Sole Leather.

GEO. HOLLAND, ATTORNEY AT LAW, BROOKVILLE, IND. Office on Main street, opposite D. Price's store.

## TERMS OF THE INDIANA AMERICAN.

TWO Dollars in advance, \$2 50 in six months, \$3 00 at the end of the year—and an addition of 30 cents for every year payment is delayed thereafter.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—Twelve lines or less will be inserted 3 times for one dollar if payment be made in advance, \$1 25 if payment be delayed one year, and \$1 50 if delayed two years, and so in the same proportion for the time payment is delayed. Larger advertisements for a longer time will be charged on the same principle.

## PATENT MEDICINES.

WE have on hand several kinds of Patent Medicines, which we will sell low for Cash, or almost any kind of country produce or mechanical productions.

We have on hand at present the following, to-wit:

Oman's Bonset Pills, Evans' Fever & Ague Pills, Good's male Domestic Pills, Evans' Soothing Syrup, for Children, Anti Billious Pills, Camomile Pills, Baron Von Huchler's Herb Pills.

All of which are excellent Medicines, having stood the test of experience.

We would also inform the owners of Patent Medicines that we propose keeping a Patent Medicine Depot, and sell on the usual per cent, and also advertise as in the above list, gratis.—We will endeavor to do every man justice.—Full and ample directions accompany the above medicines. Certificates of their utility and their great benefit in the diseases to which flesh is heir, are in our possession and can be seen. C. F. CLARKSON. Feb. 15, 1844.

## GROCERIES.

WE have on hand a lot of SUGAR, COFFEE, and MOLASSES, which we can sell as low as they can be had in the place.—Our Store House is in the basement room of the American Printing Office. We intend keeping these articles on hand and for sale hereafter, constantly.

C. F. CLARKSON. Feb. 15, 1844.

## THE SOUND CURRENCY.

THE Editor of the American will take the following Currency at par, for subscription or advertising, to-wit:

Maple Sugar,	Corn,
Molasses,	Wheat,
Country Linen,	Flour,
Jeans,	Corn meal,
Chickens,	Pork,
Butter,	Beef,
Cheese,	Oats,
Wood,	Hay,
Dried Apples,	Flour,
Dried Peaches,	Bacon,
Or most any mechanical production.	

ON hand, constantly at the American office the following kinds of blanks:

Deeds,	Summons,
Mortgages,	Sub poenas,
Quit-Claim Deeds,	Executions,
March 20, 1844,	