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A NARRATIVE,

EMBRACING THE HISTORY OF TWO OR THREE OF

THE FIRST SETTLERS AND THEIR FAMILIES,
OF SCHENECTADY.

INTERSPERSED WITH A FEW

ANECDOTAL ECCENTRICITIES AND ANTIQUITIES.

TOGETHER WITH

A DESCRIPTION OF THE WINTER EVENING VISITS, RECREATIONS, AND
SUPPER, AND OF THE TEA-PARTIES OF OLDEN TIMES, WITH
A FEW STRICTURES ON THE CHANGE OF TIMES.

BY DAN'L J. TOLL, M. D.,

SCHENECTADY, FEB. 25, 1847.

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A CONCISE

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH,

INTERSPERSED WITH A FEW ECCENTRIC AND ANECDOTAL HABITS OF KAREL HAENSEN TOLL, TOGETHER WITH A REGISTER AND GENEALOGICAL TABLE OF THE LINEAL DESCENT OF HIM, AND HIS WIFE ELIZABETH, ALIAS LYBETYE RINCKHOUT.

THE great difficulty of obtaining correct and authentic information at this late period, of matters and things that relate to the early period of the settlement of the Province and now State of New York, from the fluctuations of government consequent to the frequent change in rulers, the paucity of Church and family records—by which births and marriages are perpetuated—consequent to the sacking, destroying and general conflagration of the village of Schenectady by the French and Indians, in the night of the 8th of February, 1690, by which the Church and Family records were destroyed, and likewise by the irregularity in which the Church records were kept for some considerable length of time subsequent—with spaces and intervals of time without any record—and in those times when births and marriages were recorded, we find them entered by poor pensmen, and in a mongrel text, or the handwriting partially defaced, mutilated and even obliterated, which places the writer in a most unpleasant and onerous situation not to be envied. But his over solicitude to obtain the national cognomen of his much respected ancestor causes him to indulge in the hope of his securing the patience and forbearance of his readers to bear with him through the mazes and labyrinths of circumstances, semi-official documents and traditional stories, by which he flatters himself to be enabled to receive and deduce sufficient and conclusive evidence of the identity and nationality of his venerable ancestor's birth.

Although the field of inquiry appears to be gloomy and dark I shall endeavor to bring it to a satisfactory result; and in doing this, I may hazard the suspicion of a desire to attach the character and name of my family to the skirts and sleeves of personages of high sounding titles and stations, who naturally move in the higher circles; but far otherwise. I can assure my readers that in consequence of the sterility of my resources I have no other alternative, and am willing to confess the obscurity of my family at the present time, and that my whole object is to relieve the present generation from their ignorance of the origin of their ancestors, and the generations to follow or to come.

We will now commence tracing the name of Toll in the higher fields of story and history, where there was ample scope to obtain fame and renown, or to lose that reputation which it might have been in possession of.

The first time that I have met with any authentic history of the name of Toll, was that in 1790, when GUSTAVUS III, King of Sweden, for the purpose of making a descent or attack on Revel, laying on the coast of the Baltic, in the province of Esthonia. Having got in readiness a powerful armament both of land and naval force, to which the command of the naval force was given to his royal highness the Duke of Sudermania, brother to his Majesty, and that of the land forces to General Toll. The attack was made accordingly; but it is not my province, at present to give a description of it. The very next time we meet with the name of Toll in history, is in Napoleon Bonaparte's campaign and invasion of Russia, where Count Segur as master of ceremonies, if I mistake not, or, at all events, attached to Bonaparte's military household, makes honorable mention of General Toll, in his description of that campaign, from the following circumstance: When the center or main army, as it was called, (the residue of his military force was spread far in wings to the north and south of him) had crossed the Boristines, and its advance had reached Kras-

noy, Napoleon discovered that Barclay De Tolley, generalissimo of the Russian army, had advanced from Smolensko with a strong force to oppose him. Barclay De Tolley, however, not being altogether satisfied of the propriety of risking a general engagement, summoned a general council, which, after mature deliberation, resulted in the conclusion of giving Bonaparte battle. General Toll being one of Barclay De Tolley's staff, it was on this occasion that Count Segur, in his work on this campaign, spoke in exalted commendation of General Toll's firmness in maintaining his opinion in favor of giving Napoleon battle. However, Barclay De Tolley either consulting his god of war, Mars, or believing his antagonist a tower of strength, raised his camp, fell back on Smolensko, and there to await the onslaught of Napoleon, the tragical result of which is known to the most of general readers. There are, however, many speculative opinions on the subject of Barclay De Tolley's falling back on Smolensko, by which it fell a prey to destruction; whereas if the engagement had taken place in the neighborhood of Krasnoy, the city of Smolensko would have been saved. I am, however, much in favor of the opinion of the Dutchman, who says it is much more safe to give an opinion afterwards than beforewards. It would appear by the Dutchman's rule that those who gave their opinion subsequent to the affair of Smolensko, had the advantage of Barclay De Tolley, who had to make up his opinion antecedent to that disaster, which argues much in his favor.

Again, the very next time or place we meet with the name of Toll is in the campaign of 1828-9, when the Czar or Emperor of Russia sent an army into Turkey, under the command of Marshal Diebitsch; and in the military operations of this campaign, in the neighborhood of Ismael and Shumla, and across the Belkan mountains in Turkey, we frequently meet or read of the titular name of Baron Toll as chief of the staff of Marshal Diebitsch in this campaign. And again in 1831 or '32, the Emperor of Russia, in consequence of some dis-

turbances of a rebellious nature, as he supposed, sent an army into Poland under the command of Marshal Diebitsch. Here again we find the name of Toll figure under the title of Chief D'Etat Major, and second in command of that army. Consequent to the death of Marshal Diebitsch in February, the command of the army devolved on General Toll as commander-in-chief. It was in this campaign that a distinguished Polish writer bestowed on General Toll the distinguished character as one of the ablest generals in the Russian service. The next from which, however, I do not claim much in evidence in point of origin to the name of Toll; we will barely mention that we find the name of Toll as Commodore in the navy of the Argente Republic, in the year 1845.

Now I wish my readers to remember and retain in mind, that if, in the sequel, I do not succeed in my effort in bringing forth and in producing such circumstantial evidence that will exclude all skeptical scrutiny, and that will bring every reader to the satisfactory reconciliation that the national cognomen of Toll is conclusively Norwegian, I will then offer my petition to the indulgence of my readers, and claim the right from the previous or preceding synopsical collections to ascribe its origin to the Slavonian or Scandinavian family.

We will now endeavor to prove by deduction from circumstances, that Karel Haensen Toll is either by birth or extract of Norwegian origin; and in accomplishing this we will have to subject ourselves to a circuitous course of reasoning to obtain evidence of the fact—if not exactly in the form of an algebraic solution—certainly somewhat approximating to it in its character. It is conceded on all hands that the first settlers and inhabitants of this now state of New York, or then Province, were Dutch or Hollanders, and that the Dutch language, manners and law and all other institutions prevailed and remained in force until the Province surrendered to the English government in 1664, and that even after the English laws and institutions were established, the Dutch was the vernacu-

lar language of the country, and prevailed predominant for a great length of time thereafter, and even continued partially in use up to this day.

It will likewise be conceded by all who are anyways conversant with the history of the early settlement of the province of New York, that the facilities for schooling and education were but nominal, or at most, in embryo, compared to what they are at the present time. Whatever opportunities offered or presented were conducted in common Dutch schools, where teachers were better calculated to receive instruction than to impart it to their scholars; it was only the few, the wealthy and the favored that could receive a collegiate or classical education; and they would have to obtain it abroad and from home. The first collegiate and incorporated institution established in the Province, was as late as 1750 something, in the city of New York.

The natural consequence of all this was, that among the common yeomanry of the country, all the incidents appertaining to their family or ancestors were registered or recorded in traditional story only. Those facts as represented above, are sufficiently obvious and conclusive with me to show that facts a century back will retain but a glimmering or shadow of their reality a century or two thereafter; hence the difficulty with the present writer to obtain a sufficient and conclusive result to the inquiry of the national cognomen of his ancestor Karel Haensen Toll. However from what follows, the writer feels himself much flattered and assured that he will be enabled conclusively and unequivocally to prove and substantiate the nationality of his ancestor's cognomen, to the absolute and utter satisfaction of every reader, even under the most skeptic scrutiny. We will now, therefore, proceed to obtain the proof and the *locus in quo* of the nationality of Karel Haensen Toll to be absolutely and unequivocally Norwegian.

For some considerable number of years since, after having made diligent research of all the documents and history that

could possibly throw or afford any light on the subject—although all this labor was conducted and carried on with a flattering prospect and hope, it however was, nevertheless, unattended with any favorable result. Having at this time an aged uncle living, although a person of good common sense, I was well satisfied that he was much circumscribed in his education, and that his head neither contained a library of intelligence nor a volume of information; however drowning people will grasp at a straw; such was the case with myself, and I accordingly had recourse to the old gentleman for such information on this subject as he probably might be in possession of. I therefore approached him with due submission and respect in the following manner:

“Uncle, you are the oldest of the name of Toll that is left alive, and myself perfectly willing to confess that I am altogether at a loss, or even ignorant to know or not to know what country our ancestor, Karel Haensen Toll, emigrated from, or what countryman he was; and will you have the goodness to inform me; you are the oldest, and I do of course expect you must know all about him.”

“Oh yes, my son; Karel Haensen Toll is from Norway in Holland; he is a Hollander; he is Dutch.”

Here, my readers, is the long sought for inquiry—the solution of the problem—Norway in Holland! ay, ay! Norway in Holland indeed, has conducted us to our goal, and must put a quietus to all controversy. Here is the glimmering, the shadow that is left by tradition of a fact that had transpired nearly two hundred years back; this is exactly in proof of my reasoning in the preceding context. Now every reader who is conversant with geography and history is well aware that there is no such a place in the seven united provinces of Holland or the Netherlands as Norway in Holland. There cannot be the least shadow of doubt but that Karel Haensen Toll was a Norwegian, and from what follows must place that point beyond all possible controversy.

It is well known, as heretofore noticed in the preceding context, that the province of New York was settled by the Dutch, and that the vernacular Dutch language prevailed, and even predominated, particularly among the inhabitants living in the country and not in the cities, up to the revolution, and until the influx of immigration supplanted the Dutch language.

Again, it is a philosophic axiom that the minor yields to the major; just so with the immigrants; it matters not whether they are Swedes or Norwegians, if they move into a strange country with a different language from their own, they will involuntarily conform to the prevailing habits, manners, customs and language of the country, and more particularly so if they enter into a state of matrimony, and commingle. It is a rife saying, that pigs in one sty have or obtain one scent; under such circumstances it requires no great stretch of the imagination to believe that after an elapse of four or five generations, the latest posterity would naturally and insensibly fall into the belief that they were Dutch, or of any other language that prevailed or might prevail in the country; and the more particularly so where there was nothing but tradition to perpetuate the historical knowledge of their ancestors' origin. And in addition to all this I have made the most diligent inquiry from every source that could promise or afford the least prospect of discovering the name of Toll in the Netherlands, not only in the old and musty papers and writings appertaining to that country, but made inquiry from people and persons inhabitants in and from that country, and who were, at the same time, familiar with that country, and without receiving the least intelligence of the existence of the name of Toll in that country. I will now close my argument and reasoning in further proof of Karel Haensen Toll's national cognomen, and aver that I believe him not only to have been a Norwegian by birth and extract, but to have been a Norwegian from head to foot, as much so as if I had seen his name bla-

zoned forth from the herald office in the city of Dronthiem in Norway.

We may as well and at this time take some notice of, and make a few explanatory observations on the general cognomen of Karel Haensen Toll, in as much as we may possibly meet with it in the sequel, under various aspects, according to the perchance and vernacular language of the day. His baptismal or christian name consisted rather of two distinct names, that is, Karel and Haensen, and his given or sir-name Toll. Consequently his full name was Karel Haensen Toll. We often find or meet with his name expressed or pronounced Karel-um, which in common comity or courtesy signifies in the Dutch language, Oma-Karel, or in English, uncle Charles. And again, if the letter *s* is added to the *um*, it places it in the possessive case. But from the simplicity and peculiarity of the then time, we find that in ordinary transactions and intercourse with each other, and even in the Colonial legislative proceedings, his two christian names only were used on many occasions, and without his given name Toll. This, however, was a very common practice, not only with the name of Karel Haensen Toll, but likewise with the names of other people and persons, and was characteristic of the simplicity of the times. However in all legal instruments, such as covenants, deeds, bonds and mortgages, &c., his name was always written in full, Karel Haensen Toll.

The preceding exposition and explanation is entered into to do away all ambiguity that might be cast upon the identity of the person and name of Karel Haensen Toll by some skeptical reader. He had at the same time an additional or other name, which was Kin-ge-go, given by the Indians, and which signifies a fish, which will be explained and taken notice of hereafter.

Our very next inquiry will be the time of old Karel-um's birth—the time of his arrival in this country—the time of his marriage and the time of his death—all of which, to be brought

to a reasonable and satisfactory result, will have to be traced through a chain of circumstances, which are to be weighed, dissected and even balanced in a manner, not only to preserve a correct concatenation of our discourse, but to alleviate the tedium and reluctance of my readers to follow me through the mazes and apparently obscure traditional story, and to obtain from them not only a satisfactory reconciliation of the result of my inquiry, but a conclusive acknowledgment of its correct result. The only apology I can offer to my readers for travelling with me through this dry and, as it were, insipid and disinterested matters to them, is that I feel and have a parental interest in the subject; and if it will relieve any of the burden to my readers, I am willing to acknowledge that my own task is sufficiently onerous, where I have to extend my antlers and grope and even feel every inch of my way through my discourse, to enable me to obtain not only my own conscientious belief, but that of my readers, as to the truth and correctness of the matter and fact of which I am in quest or in pursuit. Although in want of proper and authentic documents, we will nevertheless endeavor to reduce the time of Karel Haensen's birth, arrival, marriage and death as near the correct time as the evidence of circumstances will admit. To ascertain the time of his birth we must have recourse to the time of his death and funeral, in the following manner, viz:

John Wemple, Esq., born in the year 1732, has, on more than one occasion, related to the present writer that when a boy five or six years old, accompanied by his father, who led him by the hand, attended the funeral of Karel Haensen Toll in the month of March, and that he recollected distinctly of hearing the old folks say that is, that the weather was stormy because old Karel-um was buried that day. This would bring the time of his death in 1737 or '38. This being the case, I will now observe that it has been very generally allowed by every one with whom I have had any conversation on the subject of his age, and with people much older than myself, and

descendants of him, that old Karel-um lived to a very good old age; this being the case, it would bring his age, at the time of his death, to be in the neighborhood of eighty years or upwards; and this again would bring the time of his birth down to sixteen hundred and fifty something, which we will accordingly accept of as the right and proper time of his birth.

Our next inquiry will be to ascertain the time and manner of his arrival in this country. It would appear that he was a seafaring person, but in what capacity has not appeared, and that he was captured, taken prisoner and imprisoned on the coast of the Spanish main, Terra Firma, South America. His confinement was in all probability in the fortress of Porto Cabello. It appears he had an intimate friend or companion; after himself and companion had been confined for some few days in their cell, they received the privilege of walking and remaining in the yard through the course of the day, with strict injunctions to be into their cell at sunset. After enjoying the privilege of the yard a few days, they discovered a strange vessel standing in for the harbor, and remaining a day or two, occasionally loofing up and bearing away, but at last shaping her course and putting out to sea. This same thing being repeated on two or three occasions, the thought occurred to them that they might escape from prison and confinement by swimming to the vessel, provided she would appear again, which she accordingly did. This gave birth to their adventure, which being formerly agreed upon, and accordingly devised and planned in the following manner, viz:

They being aware that the keeper had his regular hour in the evening to make his appearance at the prison door to examine, by looking through the diamond hole of the cell door, to discover whether they were in and in their bed, and when all appeared safe he would lock the door and retire to his own quarters, they accordingly and previous to the time of his expected visit had contrived to shape and to give such a form to their bed or beds so as to represent or imitate a person laying

in bed and asleep; whilst they at the time of his usual visit lay concealed in the shade and dark side of the outward wall of the prison yard, and heard the slamming of the door and the clanking of the lock and key of their prison door; this being done and the keeper withdrawn to his quarters, they soon scaled the walls and started for the sea shore. When they arrived at the place previously agreed upon to take to the water, they hastily undressed themselves and embraced each other, and with a solemn vow engaged and declared to each other to be faithful and persevering to the end. They reasonably calculated that no time ought to be lost, and accordingly entered immediately into the water and waded a very considerable distance through various depths of water, from knee deep up to their armpits, and at the same time through a dense growth of sea-weed, which lacerated their bodies and gave them great annoyance and weariness, from irritation produced by the briny or salt water of the ocean, which in the end disheartened Karel-um's comrade to such a degree that he adopted the resolution and determination to return and hazard the consequence of his pending fate. Karel Haensen, however, remained firm and determined—took his comrade by the hand and with a feeling gripe bid him a cordial and affectionate farewell, they parted—Karel-um continued on and soon cleared himself of the sea-weed and got into deep water, which enabled him to swim, and continued swimming, as he supposed, the better part of the night—at all events until he became doubtful of his own safety. Whilst reflecting and contemplating he heard the crowing of a fowl, and immediately thereafter saw light of a lantern moving, which circumstance gave him renewed spirits and strength, and shortly thereafter he came within hailing distance; after a short parley between the sentinel and himself, a rope ladder was cast overboard, by which he was enabled to get on board of the vessel; after getting on board, he received a shirt of one, and a pair of trousers from another, and a hat from a third person, &c. In the morning he made the captain of the

vessel acquainted with the adventure and his apprehension of their coming after him in the course of the day. The captain's reply was, as long as he had a shot in the locker he should not be delivered up to his enemy. Accordingly the same day an officer, with a few men in a row boat, arrived and made enquiry after Karel-um; reply was made that they neither had heard or seen anything of him; thus ended his difficulty. He continued in this vessel until his arrival in New York. It is with pain and regret that I have to mention that the name of both the captain and the vessel have been lost, through the vicissitudes of time.

We may as well observe in this place and at this time, that the preceding adventure gave rise and birth to Karel-um's Indian name, Kin-ge-go, which signifies a fish in this language.

We will assume and am willing to believe that it will be conceded on all hands that Karel Haensen, the subject of the preceding adventure, was, in common reason, at least five-and-twenty years of age; and if we take into account the time of his birth in sixteen hundred fifty and something, we will doubtlessly all agree that it will bring the time of his arrival in this country in the city of New York, in the neighborhood or very nearly to 1680.

It would appear that he soon relinquished his roaming disposition, and that his mind was soon made up to remain a permanent citizen of this country, from the circumstance of his becoming engaged in matrimony, by getting married to Elizabeth, alias Lybetyea Rinckhout, within two or three years after his arrival in this country, as will appear from what follows.

We find recorded in the Church book of the Reformed Dutch Church of Schenectady, the marriage of Eve Toll, daughter of Karel Haensen Toll and his wife Elizabeth, alias Lybetyea Rinckhout, in 1705, to Evert Van Eps. Now therefore, if we allow the age of Eve Toll, at the time of her marriage, to have been twenty years, that would bring the

time of her father and mother's marriage, Karel Haensen Toll and Elizabeth, alias Lybetyea Rinckhout in the neighborhood of 1683 or '84. The very first time that we meet with anything on record in the Church book of the Reformed Dutch Church of Schenectady, about or concerning Karel Haensen, is the recording the act of his being received and engaged as a member in full communion with the Church, in the year sixteen hundred and ninety-four.

Our very next inquiry ought to be, after subjecting the reader to wander and feel his way through a long perspective of multifarious circumstances and traditional stories, is how to obtain his reconciliation for his labor for reading and following the writer in his efforts and endeavors to unravel a subject, although of considerable moment to the writer, apparently of little value to the reader; and again, we repeat, our next inquiry ought to be whether we will not subject ourselves to the strictures and observations that were made of a landlord whose vocation was that of keeping a tap-house or rum shop to retail rum by the glass, who, on many occasions, felt himself very much annoyed by the pressing importunities of an old woman commonly called a squaw, begging and teasing him for something more to drink, beyond what his patience could endure, would on some occasions, in his wrath, pour a glass of rum into a full pail of water, and subject the old woman to the drinking of a whole pailfull of water to obtain the virtue of a glassfull of rum. I can assure my readers that I anticipate no such a thing as strictures and observations, but rather that my readers will sympathize and ascribe the efforts of the writer to his filial feelings towards his ancestor, and doubts not but they will willingly receive and accept his apology, with a promise to continue the residue of his story in a plain matter of fact manner. Therefore our further continuance of the biographical sketch of Karel Haensen Toll will be less perplex; it will be the following a well trodden path, to the *locus in quo* of his first domicil, and from whence we will fol-

low him through all the vicissitudes of his life. We therefore will now take our readers to Karel Haensen's first domicile after his marriage, which was located about eight and a half miles above the present city of Schenectady, and in the present town of Glenville, immediately by the side of the Schenectady and Utica railroad, and on the north side thereof, at the foot or base of a hill, in an old apple orchard, belonging to the heirs of Albert Van Eps, deceased, and a branch of old Karel-um's posterity, which domicile has been handed down by tradition to us under the appellation of a cave. This opinion, however, I believe to be untenable. Any person who has ever been made acquainted with the character and spirit of old Karel-um, would readily conceive his breast would heave and swell with contempt at the idea of a cave for his residence, otherwise than for a temporary relief or resource. The writer, whose pen at this moment is not under the influence of pride to give eclat to his theme, but rather otherwise, and more desirous of giving a correct interpretation and description of old Karel-um's domicile. Having on more than one occasion had this place pointed out to me, and which I beheld and viewed with a venerable contemplation of the past, and which, on due reflection, and in taking into consideration the fact that Karel Haensen Toll must have retained a perfect recollection and knowledge of the building and construction of the abodes and dwellings of the peasantry of his own native country, Norway—and again, the fact of its location at the foot of the hill, as indicated by a concavity that still remains, it would be difficult after thus premising, to suspect any person ignorant of the order of the architect and form of construction of Karel-um's domicile; the writer has no difficulty of conceiving that the idea must have occurred to the architect that by excavating in the side and foot of the hill, it would give him three sides to a basement story, and with the front blocked up with logs or timber, and the chinks filled in with clay or moss, it would constitute a comfortable basement, (an-

ti-room or second and third story was out of the question,) which again was reasonably to be supposed, was covered with birch bark or thatch, laid on young saplings. This then we consider to have been the order of architect and construction of Karel Haensen's domicil, instead of the cave as tradition will have it.

Whatever Karel Haensen's manner of life may have been previous to his connubial state, it was from this time forward in a continued state of progression towards prosperity and honor. It was from this humble abode that Kin-ge-go, the cognomen by which Karel-um was most familiarly known by the Indians, who were some of his neighbors, would start in pursuit of his daily labor, which was grubbing, hoeing, mowing and every other kind of manual labor appertaining to husbandry, and literally fulfilling the scriptural injunction, in obtaining his living by the sweat of his brow. The little pittance and daily receipts for his day's labor from his employers constituted, at that time, his only means for the support of himself and family. It was from this same humble abode and dwelling that old mother Rinckhout would leave, and on foot, for Dorp, (meaning the village of Schenectady) to buy herself a scipple or three pecks of wheat at the town mill, and have it manufactured and ground into grist, and return on the same day and on foot, with the burden of her grist on her shoulders, which on the next day would be manufactured into bread and cake, to be sold to her neighbors, the Indians, for wampum and pelt. This journey and labor was as often repeated as the occasion called for it. The writer really imagines that he is enabled at this late hour to figure to himself groups of the aborigines, strolling, lingering and loitering about the abode of old mother Rinckhout, and occasionally annoying her around her fireside; and likewise their birch canoes, with all their paraphernalia of Indian taste, moored along the shore of the Mohawk, and at the same time their pappooses gamboling, vaulting and tumbling about on the green sward, and in sight of

her door. It is not to be supposed that the old people could have foreseen, through the long vista of future time, the many improvements that would follow, or that would take place after their day; and as little could they have dreamed of the construction of a railroad immediately in front of their then door, or of a train of carriages and cars filled with passengers and merchandize, moving along the road by the agency of steam at the rate of twenty or thirty miles the hour, or the speed of an arrow, nor as little could they have anticipated their own industry and frugality would lay the foundation for the prosperity of their posterity, to enable them to pass and repass, up and down the road to Dorp, or the village of Schenectady, mounted and accoutred on prancing steeds, with spur and whip in hand, nor of riding or driving in splendid carriages, (and if not in the splendor of princely royalty, with outriders, postilion and coachman seated on an embroidered or laced hammer-cloth) but certainly if not with the above splendors, with elegant vehicles in summer, and elegant sleighs, covered with buffalo robes, and drawn by noble horses, and accompanied with the jingling of bells in winter, and in accordance with the fashion of the day: And as little could they have anticipated that one and a half centuries after this time a superannuated great grandson would have been induced from filial feelings, and with tears trickling down his furrowed cheek, whilst feebly urging his pen to portray and delineate the toils and labors of his venerable ancestors. It ought not to be considered a miracle that whilst in the depth of his meditation and in the zeal of his imagination, that the image of his ancestor should be presented to his mind, with an axe on his shoulder and spade in hand, moving on the road and on his way to his daily task; still confining his mind to meditation and reflection, and in a profundity of thought, he fancied he could see old Mother Rinckhout on her way home with her grist, and resting by the wayside under the shade of a tree, with brawny muscle and sunburnt skin, taking her scanty repast,

and occasionally dipping her cup, to allay and quench her thirst, into a crystal stream that was meandering at her feet, seeking its way to the Mohawk river; still continuing in the same profundity of thought and view of mind, and after moving still a little further on the road or footpath, he fancied he could see old mother Rinckhout resting by the side of the Indian trail, indicating fatigue and weariness—her hair disheveled, with tresses hanging over her shoulders, and at the same time in a profuse state of perspiration, and occasionally wiping her forehead: oh! not with a cambric or silken handkerchief, but with the humble corners of her check apron. After receiving sufficient rest, she placed her grist on to her shoulders, and directed her footsteps towards her home. The writer does not entertain the least doubt but that he will relieve his readers from sympathy by informing them that old Karel-um and his companion, Elizabeth, alias Lybetyea Rinckhout were well rewarded for their toil and labor; they became comfortable, and were ranked and considered opulent among their neighbors, in their later days.

We will now endeavor to take a rapid glance and give a crude sketch or outline of the property held by Karel Haensen Toll, within the short space of time that intervened from the time he first commenced the construction of his first abode or cave, as it was vulgarly called, and until the time of his removal and the purchase of his estate at Malwyck, as it was called, and lying within two miles of the present city of Schenectady, and in the town of Glenville, in seventeen hundred and twelve—the whole period of time probably amounting to twenty years, more or less. There is a verbal history and account in the remaining families of his posterity, that he was the owner in fee of the whole of the seventh flats, together with the upland adjoining, as far as the hill lying north of the flats, and gave it as a legacy to two of his daughters; that is Nailtyea Toll, who married John Van Eps, and Lybetyea Toll, who married Peter Cornu. That he owned the western

half is most certain; for we find by official documents that his daughter Nailtyea married John Van Eps in October, seventeen hundred and twenty, and the following year, April the twenty-ninth, seventeen hundred and twenty-one, Karel Haensen conveyed unto his son-in-law, John Van Eps, and to his daughter Nailtyea Toll, the western half of the seventh flats, and as far west along the Mohawk as the western boundary of the Schenectady patent and the heirs of Philip Groat, with the exception of one morgan of land on the east side of the creek, the site of his old wigwam, and one morgan on the west side of the creek, which at present is called Hoffman's Ferry, or the Schenectady and Utica Railroad Station, all for the consideration of love and affection as mentioned in the deed. We likewise find Peter Cornu conveying by quit-claim to his brother-in-law, John Van Eps, and to his sister-in-law, Nailtyea Toll, the western half of the seventh flats, and which he describes as bound on the east, on the eastern half of the seventh flats, and as his own property. This eastern half of the seventh flats Peter Cornu subsequently conveyed to Aaron Vedder, the grandfather of the present writer, and it remains in the possession of his posterity up to this day. From the foregoing it appears evident to me that Peter Cornu and his wife Lybetyea Toll received the eastern half of the seventh flats as a legacy, the same as John Van Eps and his wife Nailtyea Toll had the western half from their common parent Karel Haensen Toll, which caused Peter Cornu to release; and if so, it is very evident that Karel Haensen owned the whole of the seventh flats; and if not, he certainly owned the western half of the seventh flats. We find by a memorandum that is kept of a controversy between the Kayanderasa patentees and the trustees of Schenectady patent, mentioning an article of agreement entered into between Geraldus Comfort and Karel Haensen Toll, on the eighth of March, sixteen hundred and ninety-four, for a piece or parcel of land, which we find eventually conveyed by Geraldus Comfort to Karel Haensen Toll,

for the consideration of a horse and cow, on the eighteenth of May, seventeen hundred and three, and lying on the north side of the Mauquas river, and described as beginning at Ta-wa-ra-yeu-na Hill, and on the west boundary of Schenectady patent, and running west along the river to the limits of the land of said Karel Haensen, and formerly belonging to Henry Cuyler. In sixteen hundred and ninety-nine Karel Haensen bought a piece of land from Johanes Cuyler, which was the remainder of that piece of land he had previously bought of Henry Cuyler, and lying west of the land bought of Geraldus Comfort, and as that lying along the Mohawk river. We likewise find that opposite to this, on the south side of the Mohawk river, he held a small tract of land previously belonging to John Lukesea, and likewise a small island in the river; both of which he disposed of or sold to Jeremiah Thickstone, March the ninth, seventeen hundred and fifteen.

We will now endeavor to ascertain the extent of old Karelum's property in the neighborhood of his first domicil, and previous to his moving and purchase of his estate at Malwyck, in seventeen hundred and twelve. In order to do this, it will become necessary to describe and define two prominent monuments or landmarks, viz:

Ta-quat-se-ra Creek, an Indian name, or the Droybergh Kill, as the old Dutch inhabitants formerly called it, and which takes its rise on the high grounds in the town of Glenville; and on its way down to the Mohawk river, by gathering and accumulating strength, it forces or makes its way, bounding, rolling and tumbling headlong through a gorge in the mountain, and pouring itself with a rapid stream into the Mohawk river, where it constitutes the division line between the seventh flats on the west, and at present the property of Albert Vedder, and the sixth flats on the east, and now the property of the heirs of Josias Swart, deceased.

The next landmark is on the west, and is the property formerly of the heirs of Philip Groat. At the present time—no

matter where its location may have been formerly—it now extends down from Crain's Village and along the Mohawk river to the property of Doctor John Swart, at a place called Swart's Ferry. But still in former times it might have extended some distance below Swart's; however, may that be as it will, the lower end constituted the west boundary of Karel Haensen's property.

I believe that I have made it appear that Karel Haensen owned the whole of the seventh flats, and as far west as the western boundary of the Schenectady patent, and that subsequently he bought of Henry Cuyler, afterwards of John Cuyler, and after that again of Geraldus Comfort; and all those purchases were west of the line of Schenectady patent; and again it appears by his deed of gift to his son-in-law John Van Eps and his daughter Nailtyea Toll, in seventeen hundred and twenty-one, that the boundary of that deed runs west to the east line of the property of the heirs of Philip Groat. The following then constitutes the property in land which old Karel-um acquired previous to his purchase of Malwyck, viz: From the Ta-quat-se-ra Creek on the east, and the property of the heirs of Philip Groat on the west—wherever that might have been—together with a small tract of land on the south side of the Mohawk river, and a small island in the river. Thus it would appear that old Karel-um and his companion, old mother Rinckhout, made more by grubbing and hoeing by the day, and by carrying grist on their back and shoulders, to be made up into bread and cake to be sold to the Indians for wampum and peltry, than our would-be gentlemen now-a-days, by playing up the dandy, lounging, smoking cigars and talking politics; or than our ladies would by making their eleven and twelve o'clock calls to leave their cards, and with no other claims to the character of the gentleman or lady than that of crude pretensions. As heretofore has been hinted, in seventeen hundred and twelve old Karel-um purchased the estate of Malwyck from Peter and Joseph Clement; the wri-

ter, however, has not been made acquainted as to the amount of the consideration money, only this, that one of the Clements was to receive a bonus which was to consist of the choice of the best horse in the stable, a saddle and bridle, together with a complete suit of new clothes and cocked hat, which he accordingly received, and was afterwards very ludicrously and uncereemoniously dismissed from the premises.

Here, then, we find old Karel-um and his vrow, Lybetyea Rinckhout safely ensconced the remainder of their lives on a princely estate, and on the bank of the Mauquas or Mohawk river, and within two miles of Dorp, and now the city of Schenectady, which estate extends on the east from the present division line of David F. Reese, and between the river and the Mohawk Turnpike, as it is at present located, and west to the east line of Cornelius Viele, and now constituting the farms of Isaac and Charles Toll and the farm of Barringer, together with the upper half of Bent's Island in the Mohawk river, and the greater part of Booken Dale, but vulgarly corrupted into the name of Poopendall, and which property remains still in possession of the Toll family. The old gentleman had not been settled a very great length of time on his Malwyck estate when he began to calculate to erect a dwelling suitable to the magnitude of his estate, which he accordingly commenced and located on the high ground which incloses the alluvial land of his farm; and its immediate situation was on the brow or edge of a gentle slope that ran down from the high ground and into a vale in the rear of his house; and again this vale afterward communicated with the river, which gave the high ground on which the dwelling stood the form and appearance of a tongue, and affording a fine lawn and green sward in front of his dwelling, together with an elegant view of the river and island, and a distant prospect of the Yan-ten-push-ya-bergh on the opposite side of the Mauquas or Mohawk river, altogether a beautiful landscape. The immediate form of the foundation or cellar was a rectangular parallelogram, something like forty by twen-

ty-five feet. The superstructure was of brick, one and a half stories in height, covered with a roof with an angle of forty-five degrees, which gave to the peak of the roof and gable ends a high appearance. Now whether it was or was not in accordance with the old gentleman's taste, it was, however, not furnished with a weather-cock or vane, as was the general custom of those days, and which most generally was an elegant horse formed out of sheet-iron, and hung by hinges on to a spindle, in a rampant position, and placed on the peak of one of the gable ends of the house, and which would indicate the point of compass from which the wind blew; which indeed is the whole secret by which the Dutch people became so much skilled and weatherwise—even so much so that an old experienced Dutchman could almost always tell when it rained or not, if you gave him a fair chance. The first story immediately above the cellar and cellar-kitchen, was divided by one partition-wall into two apartments, and with a door in this partition to give ingress and egress to both rooms. The upper story or garret was left in one spacious room the full dimensions of the building, with only a common or ordinary finish. One of the rooms on the first floor was allotted to the ordinary use of the family as a dwelling, the other went by the name of *Kaumer*, and was considered the best room in the building, and hardly ever used but on the occasion of a funeral or a wedding. The floors of these rooms consisted of yellow pine plank, from fourteen to sixteen inches in width; the floor over head was the same, only with this difference: that is, the under side of which was in view and immediately over head, was planed with an exceeding high wrought finish, so as to give it a rich appearance; the beams overhead on which the upper floor rested, were of large and beautiful timber, and likewise highly wrought and finished, and were received at each of their ends with tenon and mortise in an upright post, and which was incased in the wall with its three sides and its front on a plane with the wall, and likewise of a high wrought

finish, similar to the upper floor and beams; those posts extended in a vertical direction to the plate timber on which the rafters of the roof rest, and were secured by tenon and mortise to the plates—the angle at the junction of the beam and post received a piece of timber adapted to the angle and of the dimensions with the beam and post, and connected with them by tenon and mortise, and which was made slightly concave in front and answered a twofold purpose—that of a brace and ornament—the fitting of which was generally allotted to the best workman as his task, to be wrought and finished in a superb style, and these posts were painted azure color up to the beam including the brace, and with a grape-vine delineated on them with full clusters of the grape. The fire-place was an open one, the hearth between eight and nine feet in length and about four feet in breadth; the back of the fire-place between the jambs and cheeks about eight feet, and the height up to the mantel-piece between six and seven feet, the cheeks or jambs projecting from the back at an angle of sixty degrees flaring, with their face looking to the center of the room, and about two feet in breadth and between six and seven feet in height. This face was set its whole surface with square earthen tile secured with cement; and on the face of each tile was represented a scriptural passage with an explanatory note at the bottom. The extreme projecting angle of these jambs received for a finish a narrow strip of plank handsomely wrought and painted the colors of mahogany. The mantel-piece, which extended the full length of the hearth and something like a foot up and down, was finished and ornamented with fluting and mouldings and colored in imitation of mahogany, and on to which generally were placed in the center a large china bowl, and usually called the punch bowl, and half a dozen china bowls of smaller dimensions on each side of it, and by way of distinction were called chocolate bowls, and were brought in use only on very particular occasions. To the under edge of this mantel-piece was suspended a broad

valance, either of calico or chintz. The window sash was a single frame, and of the form of a parallelogram, about two feet in width and five in length up and down, glazed with four by five inch panes of glass, which were set in an iron frame and fastened with sheet lead instead of putty. These sashes were hung with hinges, and when required, would open to the inside of the room; they were protected on the outside with shutters as now in modern days. I must not forget the stairs in the dwelling-room that led up to the garret, and which was carried by two flights—the first two-thirds of the way up and to a platform, the second ran at right angles from the platform to a kind of lobby at the head of the stairs, and which admitted of an entrance into the garret by a door; all this to protect the lower room from the cold air of the garret. The newel-post, hand-railing and balustrades were all of large and massive material, exceedingly well wrought and finished after the fashion of the day; the steps were of oak plank with mouldings stuck on their projections. This constituted the upper part of the building above the cellar and cellar-kitchen, which was a large and well finished room with a bed-room attached to it; the huge and large beams over head were of the same order of finish with the rest of the building or rooms above, and in those times of simplicity were used to chalk their little accounts on in the room of a day-book or ledger. Many a skipple of wheat has been chalked on them against the first settlers of Ballstown and Gallway, (the five thousand acres, but at present called Charleston.) The outside doors ought not to be forgotten; they were literally made of two short doors, and were known by the name of the upper and lower door, and they afforded this advantage; that is, my vrow could open the upper door and retain the lower one shut and in its place, so as to enable her to lean against it and at the same moment to rest with her elbow on the upper edge of the door, and so again to enable her at her leisure to take a comfortable peep out doors and learn what was going on; this was

very convenient, inasmuch as the panes of glass in the sash were so small so as to allow but of one eye at a time to look through them. The old cellar-kitchen reminds me of one of old Karel-um's eccentricities: it was in this cellar-kitchen on Sundays when the rest of the family were attending to church service, that the old gentleman would spread a slice of bread with butter sprinkled with some sugar, then get the boys to jump, wrestle and even to fight a little, so as to have drawn a little claret occasionally from their proboscises, and then give to the winner the greater moiety of the spoils; this the writer has had related to him about five and twenty or thirty years since, by an old gentleman—Abraham Schermerhorn—then upwards of ninety years of age, who was himself one of the parties.

After this description of the above dwelling it is almost superfluous to say that this was the house that old Karel-um built, and not the house that Jack built, and was the largest dwelling house in the township of Schenectady, with the exception of one built in Scotia, by John Sandersa Glen, in seventeen hundred and thirteen, for his son, Colonel Jacob Glen, and which the writer, during the time he was engaged in this sketch took the occasion to view and examine the old building, and feels proud to record, was most friendly and very politely introduced by the vrow or lady of the proprietor, Peter Sanders, Esq., into the apartments of the old building, in which I found a superfluity of the most splendid and elegant furniture, that gave to the apartments a dazzling appearance and a strong evidence of the hand of taste in its arrangement; but still the old house acted its part well; it shone forth with all the splendor of a recent and well finished building, and so much so that in casting up my opinion of the same I had involuntarily to tip my brow to the old building for its antiquated and venerable associations and its well preserved condition. The writer is an admirer of antiquities and manners and customs of yore, must confess he felt his pleasure somewhat marred on

reflecting on the absence of all the bustle and stir and all the paraphernalia of husbandry, with all its appearance of comfort that he well recollected of seeing sixty years back about this rich and superb abode.

We will now follow old Karel-um to the Colonial Legislature. Although we have nothing to offer that will astonish the reader, or to show him to be the eminent statesman, it is, however, a part and parcel of his biography, and we will relate the facts as we find them recorded in the official journals of the Colonial Legislature, with the addition of two or three incidents of his eccentric character. After the decease of Queen Anne in the autumn of seventeen hundred and fourteen, and at the commencement of the reign of his majesty George the First, Governor Hunter caused a writ to be issued for electing a general Assembly, to meet December the fourteenth, seventeen hundred and fourteen, by which Karel Haensen was returned as one of the three members for the city and county of Albany, which then consisted in territory from the north lines of the counties of Dutchess and Ulster to the extreme ends of the province of New York north and west. This legislature was dissolved in August, seventeen hundred and fifteen. The next general election for Members of Assembly, Karel Haensen was again elected and returned to the House, which met June the fifth, seventeen hundred and sixteen, and with this election continued a member of the legislature until August, seventeen hundred and twenty-six, during the entire reign of George the First, with the exception of the last year of his reign, in which Capt. Jacob Glen served for the township of Schenectady from the twenty-seventh of September until the eleventh of November following, seventeen hundred and twenty-six. George the Second was proclaimed king the next August following, seventeen hundred and twenty-seven. On his first trip to the legislature and on his way either in Albany or on the sloop, he met with a friend or acquaintance who shook him very familiarly by the hand and in a very familiar way

observed that his coat was rather the worse for wear, and at the same time asked him if he intended to appear with that coat in the presence of the Governor. "Why not?" was asked by old Karel-um; "I am confident it is well lined." The reply was, "If you will, I will give you so much." The bargain was closed by the shaking of the hands. On their arrival in New York, a day or two before the session commenced, they as usual called on his Excellency to pay him their respects; after the introduction and shaking of the hands, the Governor observed to Karel-um, "Your coat appears rather thread-bare." "Yes, your Excellency, but there is a very good lining under it." With this the old gentleman got up and made his first debut, and with a profound bow, addressed his excellency in the following manner: "May it please your Excellency, living as I do in the interior and on the extreme borders of our settlements, I need not inform your Excellency that it ought not to be expected that I should be very familiar and conversant with the etiquette of court circles and life. Any further remarks would be superfluous; I will barely observe that my appearance in this coat is more to prove the folly of my friend than that of my ignorance or that of my disrespect of your Excellency." With that old Karel-um turned to his friend and demanded his money, which gave a new turn to the tables and upon his friend. The very next interview old Karel-um had with his excellency he received a hearty grip from his hand, with the assurance that he believed his lining was suitable for any coat. The old gentleman, during the session of the legislature, boarded and lodged at the house of the Widow Post, a great grandmother of a very respectable citizen of the city of Schenectady, Cornelius Van Santvort, Esq., from whom I have the following story. One day the old lady asked old Karel-um why he did not attend the House, when he replied that he had nothing to do there that day, but on the morrow the hog law would be up, and then he would be there, for that he understood and knew all about it. On another

er occasion a supply bill was before the House, and during the discussion old Karel-um napt it a little, or pretended to, when a member who was next to him gave him a gentle shake, saying,

“What, Karel-um, are you sleeping?”

“Why yes, I believe so, for I have been dreaming.”

“Pray, what have you dreamed?”

“Well, sir, I dreamed that some person was about thrusting his hand into my pocket and that I grasped it with both of mine.”

We presume this dream needs no Daniel to interpret it to our readers. Dream or no dream, we will suppose that old Karel-um performed the minor duties of the legislature equal to his compeers, and there we will leave him with the exception of one circumstance which we will barely mention for its antiquity, and as a curiosity to the inhabitants of the city of Schenectady, where we find Karel Haensen, in seventeen hundred and twenty-one, although a member of the legislature, associated with John Sandersa Glen, Adam Vrooman and John Wemp in setting stockades for the fort in Schenectady, which stockades ran nearly through the middle of Front, Washington, State and Ferry streets, inclosing the four original squares of the old village Dorp; the space left between Front street and the river was at that time called calvers waityea, (in English, calf-pasture.) For the setting of these stockades they received from the legislature ninety-six pounds, thirteen shillings, and ninepence. Those families on the outside of the inclosure might, in time of danger from an enemy, move within the stockades and be protected in common with the rest of the citizens. The writer fancies himself that he is in possession of one of the very stumps of those stockades, which he obtained in the following manner: some four or five years since the superintendent of the street was engaged in relaying the pavement in front of Governor Yates’ office with the workmen, and in grubbing the ground came upon the heads of a row of stumps running lengthwise with the street, and which

I supposed to be the very stumps of the stockades spoken of, and with a little flattery and something to drink, I readily obtained one of the hands to excavate a couple of feet and to take one of them out, or at least the heart, which consists entirely of turpentine, which I hold in possession as a relic of antiquity.

We will now add a little explanation about the legislative members of the township of Schenectady. In sixteen hundred and seventy-two, July the third, the Indian Deed was obtained; and in sixteen hundred and eighty-four Governor Dongan granted the first Patent for the township of Schenectady, and appointed Sweer Tunessa and Ryer Schermerhorn, Myndert Wemp, William Teller and John Van Eps, Trustees; and in seventeen hundred and fourteen, Ryer Schermerhorn being the only surviving trustee, made application to Governor Hunter for advice or relief; who thereupon renewed, or rather gave a new patent, and reappointed Ryer Schermerhorn and four additional trustees with him as associates, with this additional privilege, that the inhabitants of the township of Schenectady might elect and send their own members to the legislature to represent the township of Schenectady. In consequence of this it appears that Karel Haensen a few of the last years of his service in the legislature, drew his salary from the township of Schenectady, as appears from the town books; and by way of curiosity to my readers I will give a sample of the proceedings of the town officers of Schenectady, and the manner in which they kept their books, together with the last receipt of Karel Haensen for his services in the legislature, verbatim, word for word, as we find it entered in the town book of the township of Schenectady.

Schonegh, October 13, Ano. 1726.

Att the meeting of the Seprovvisor, present,

Mr. GUSBERT V. BRACKEL,

Whom then apounted mee Sÿmon Veder to Bee the Town

Treasurer for the ynsea year, then adyorned to the 13th of this instant mount.

Present, GISBERT V. BRACKEL.

Whom then overloekith the laest years sepoost, found in the hands of the Treasurer—

Then ordered advertisement to Bee put up for all those that have any yust Demands on the township tho Bring in thir accoupts to the treasurer; also warront to the assessers; then adyorned to the 6 Day of Febr., 172|⁶/₇.

Schoneh., Feb. 6, 172⁶/₇. Att the meeting of the suprovisor, present,

Mr. Gysbert van Brackel, whom then overlouckith the accoubts and orderd them to bee Entered Down in the Book.

to Carel Haensen, Esq.,.....	£	42	10	
to Jacob Glen, Esq.,.....		19	18	
to the Assessers,.....		1	10	
to the Colecter,.....		2	14	9
to the Treasurer for to bing Clerk, ...			15	
to the Treasurer,.....		1	15	
to Yames Stevensen,.....		0		
to William hopkins,.....		1	3	
to the Suproviser,.....		00	12	
	£	67	0	0

Also overloockith the Estimate of the assessers Yacob Glen and Cornelius Van Der Volge, under their hands and seals, £2600, ordered 6 pens 3 fartings per pound, with amount to bee £67. found allso in y hands of Symon Veder, treasurer, also in the hands of Gysbert van Brackel of the

You are herby Required and Command to pay unto ye severale parson or persons, or to this order, this several accounts Ordered by the Suproovisor of the said township of Schonegh-tendie, such sum or sums of monny as it att the ends of thir several names, as soon as the monny shall com unto your hands, and this and thir severall Recpt shall be your suvisand

Dischargh, Given under my hand and Saell, this third day of April, in the thirteenth year of the Reign of our Soverin Lord, George, over Greatt Brittain, France and Yerland, king Devender of the faith ano y Do 1727.

to SYMON VEDER,
towns treasuraer.

GYSEBERT.v.BRACKEL.

Schoneghentdie, April 18, 1727.

then Reced by me, from Symon Veder, treasurer, the ful and yust sum of forty-two pound 10 Shiling Corant monny of the Colleny of nieu yorck, for my sallery as assemblman for the said town for the last year.

42..10

Said Reced by mee,

KAREL HAENSEN TOLL.

N. B. He would, on some occasions, simply write his name Karel Haensen.

Schoneghentdie, April 5, 1735.

Then recieved from Symon Veder, towns treasurer, the yust and full sune of tre Shilling Corant mony, itt beeing for my Negroo worcks that he has Done for whippen the negro need in this town.

j said Recieved by Mee, ARENT BRAT.

At the commencement of this sketch we engaged to give a few of old Karel-um's anecdotal eccentricities, but in pursuing the thread of our discourse, we found it inconvenient to distribute them in the context without subjecting ourselves to incongruity, which might be supposed to prevail to too great an extent already. We will therefore endeavor to make amends by placing them in a body at the latter end, at least those we retain; for undoubtedly many of them have been lost in the rubbish of time and sunk in the gulf of oblivion.

It would appear the old gentleman was a person of some considerable enterprise, and had his own and peculiar manner in carrying them out. He would occasionally make a visit to old Dorp and remain a week or ten days without returning to

his home, the small distance of a couple of miles. On one of these occasions he rode in town or Dorp with a load of grain, and placed it under the tackle in old Douwum's yard—ordered his horses taken care of, and a separate room to himself, a table sat, as was his usual practice, provided with pipes and tobacco and the ordinary beverage then in use at convivial meetings, which were mulled wines, strong beer and a little Jamaica spirits, which was used in the form of toddy, and was nothing more nor less than a little spirits mixed with water in a china bowl or an earthen one, which was called a nipp of toddy, and with the addition of a little sugar it would constitute a nipp of punch. Glass tumblers were not in use in ordinary circles, if at all, in those days. Old Karel-um thus situated and of a free and open turn of disposition, it is readily to be conceived, would not long be in want of guests to run up a bill or score; and the manner in which he would cancel his bill was in the following manner: he would occasionally ask old Douwum, the landlord, how his bill stood, who would step to the closet and open the door—cast up the chalks—cry out, so much. Old Karel-um would say “Very well, hoist out a bag,” or two, as the case might be. This would continue for a longer or shorter length of time, until the load of grain was consumed, by which time the old gentleman in this his peculiar or eccentric way of speculation, would either become the gainer or the loser, before his return home. At another time at one of these convivial meetings, he had Col. Jacob Glen, of Scotia, as a guest and companion, and on their way home felt somewhat concerned about their reception; they interchanged some speculative opinions on the subject, and concluded they would try and see who had the most friendly and best natured wife for a companion at home. They accordingly stepped in at Scotia, at Col. Jacob Glen's house, and found the old vrow in a very bad humor, grumbling and scolding at a great rate; after old Karel-um found that the scolding was in good earnest, he took the Colonel out to see the horses

at the barn, but in the room of that they turned the corner and laid their course for Malwyck. On arriving there the old vrow received them with much hospitality and friendship, bid Col. Glen take a seat and make himself comfortable, asked about the health of himself and family, and most particularly that of his vrow. Col. Glen being well satisfied with his reception suggested a wish to see the horses, and on their way to the barn, says the Colonel,

“Karel-um, I must confess you have the best wife.”

“Why so?” says old Karel-um.

“Well, because she is pleasant and does not scold at all.”

“Ah! man, wait until you are gone, then comes my time; I will get it.”

On a particular occasion as the old gentleman was perambulating through the streets of Dorp he fell in with a Mr. Brazee, I think, a poor man who kept a small tap-house or tavern, who addressed the old gentleman in the following manner: “Karel-um, I am very much in want of a milch-cow, and am poor, and I hardly know how to pay for one, or where to get one.” “My friend, don’t give yourself any uneasiness about that; I will see that you have one, and will put you in the way to pay for it easy.” Karel-um’s standing in community at that time was in advance of his neighbors—his word as good as a bond, and his predictions prophetic—was a member of the legislature, and had the title of esquire attached to his name. Brazee of course thought he had met with his lucky star. A few days thereafter Brazee made his appearance at Malwyck; the old gentleman soon took him in the pasture and showed him the cows and mentioned their different prices. Brazee soon made his choice and drove it home to Schenectady. He was no sooner on the outside of the gate but old Karel-um stood at the glass, scraping his beard—changed his dress and made for Dorp, got out a precept for Brazee, and obtained judgment. Brazee indicated much distress—told Karel-um that he expected that he would put him in the way of paying for the

cow easy. "That is just what I am doing." Brazee shook his head and really thought he had brought himself and family in trouble. Sometime thereafter old Karel-um came to Brazee's house and called for a private room, ordered victuals and drink for all that came to see him, until the cow was paid for, which was effected in a short time. This pleased old Karel-um so much that he had taken rather more than usual, and on walking out of doors he found he had lost his equilibrium, and in balancing backwards and forwards to secure his vertical position he took to cascading severely; an acquaintance of his at that moment passing the gate, discovered the old gentleman, made up to him and accosted him in the following manner: "What is the difficulty my friend?"

"I will tell you; heretofore I have been in the habit of calling on the Doctor when I required an emetic, but at this time I have undertaken to prescribe for myself, and have accordingly taken the whole or better part of a cow, and I assure you the dose proves rather large, and it operates very severely."

I believe all will think with me it was paying well for the fiddler. However it answered the purpose very well; the cow according to promise was easy paid for, and Brazee well satisfied.

We will now endeavor to relate one of the last of old Karel-um's peculiar visits which he occasionally made to Dorp, which have been retained by traditional story, and on which occasion it appears he continued longer than usual from home; which caused the old vrow to send the negro foreman Klaus to Douwums with a very polite request to Karel-um, to see if he would not have the goodness to pay his family a visit, inasmuch as matters and things called for his presence very much. On the arrival of Klaus, Douwum, the landlord, acquainted the old gentleman of the arrival of Klaus; with that Karel-um ordered the negro to come into the room, which he accordingly did, and with his hat under his arm and trembling, delivered his errand. The old negro was ordered something to drink,

and to return home and inform his vrow that his master was well provided for, and lived as well as the land could afford, both in victuals and drink, and waited upon when required, and if he returned home would receive a scolding; and where he was there was nothing of that. Karel-um and old Douwum's family anticipated a visit from old mother Rinckhout the following day; accordingly preparations were made to receive her with marked attention. The next day the house was all brushed up and things arranged in the best of order—the old lady and her daughters dressed in their best bib and tucker, and as anticipated, old mother Rinckhout made her appearance in the afternoon, in a wagon with Klaus, his foreman. After the ordinary greetings and salutations of how gaut it, she was taken into their best room. After the ordinary chit-chat the table was brought on to the floor; and in doing this the best foot was put forward. Accordingly the table was spread with the best of everything of the victual kind the house could afford, and when all was ready and prepared, the family mustered around the table; Karel-um and his vrow took seats by the side of each other. The ordinary process of eating and drinking was conducted as was usual on such occasions, but with this addition, that of a pressing solicitation on the part of the family for mother Rinckhout to make free and help herself. “Lybetyea-mut, come prebare ane beatyea van duit dicka melks kassyea. “Ick daunk you, ick have hale well, daunkey.”* Old Karel-um after finishing his meal or repast, withdrew himself from the table and was soon seen sending up volumes of smoke from his pipe, curling around his head, and which soon enveloped his person. Old mother Rinckhout, not to be outdone, was soon seen taking out her snuff-box, giving it two or three taps with the end of her finger, and took a large pinch of snuff and gave her olfactories

* English.—Aunt Elizabeth, come, try a little of this pot-cheese.” “Thank you, I have done very well, thank you.”

a liberal treat, and then took her pocket handkerchief and gave her face and nose a brushing in a most becoming manner, and on returning her handkerchief to her pocket, she gave her person a little inclination to facilitate the operation, and on resuming her proper position she gave utterance to the following short speech. "Well, Karel-um, we will want our time; it is getting late, and we will have to do like the beggar, after eating and drinking heartily we must try to get home, otherwise it will make it late before we get there." Here followed a short dialogue between old Karel-um and his vrow.

Karel-um.—I don't know how that is; my mind is not altogether made up about going home with you.

Old Vrow.—What, Karel-um, not go home with me!

Karel-um.—Why no; for if I do you will be a scolding, and here I have nothing of that.

Old Vrow.—As to that I will promise you not to scold, and besides all that your presence is very much wanted to see to matters and things at home.

Karel-um.—I have arranged that with Klaus; he is foreman; he can manage those things as well as if I was there myself.

Old Vrow.—Well, then, if scolding is the only difficulty, I will promise you that I wont scold.

Karel-um.—If that is the case, it is possible I may go; but mind, as soon as you scold I will return back to old Douw-um's, where there is no scolding.

At the conclusion of this treaty orders were given for Klaus to bring the wagon to the door. Klaus soon appeared mounted on the cratt, (the name given to the seat of the driver of the wagon;) Karel-um and his vrow got in, and when all ready the old vrow bid them gooda nauvant Vrienda; then Klaus gave a crack with his whip and off they started. They no sooner got through the launt hack, (that is in English the land gate—a gate on the outer edge of the village, to protect the bouwland flats,) but mother Rinckhout began to mutter and

grumble. Karel-um bore with this for some time, and finding importunities of no avail, he told Klaus to turn round; old mother Rinckhout told him to continue on; Klaus looking back over his shoulder endeavoring to discover whose command he should obey, inadvertently allowed the horses to continue; the old lady at the same time continued scolding as the High-Dutcher sung his psalms—that is, higher and higher.

At last Karel-um's wrath got kindled, and his blood rushing to his temples, with that he hit Klaus a rap with his cane, over his head, accompanied with the command, "Droy um yow, sacramentsa hunt!" The wagon was turned in a twinkling and on its way to old Douwum's, and they barely escaped a somerset by the skin of their teeth; the old lady soon began a begging and praying to stop the wagon; she declared that she would never scold any more. Karel-um then concluded he would try her once more, but with this condition: "Zo aldean as yea ware scald ick sall ware umdroyea, of is it in de middle von de raveare of het rift;" (in English, "As sure as you scold again I will turn round if it should be in the middle of the river or rift.") This finally was a perfect cure; the old lady was as good as her word, gave up scolding and left the old gentleman at liberty to enjoy himself at his leisure.

The following is a traditional story related by our venerable and departed friend, Maus Schermerhorn, Esq., viz: The Sheriff of the county had an occasion to call on old Karel-um, now whether to serve a process or not has not transpired. In calling at the house he was directed to the smoke-house, where he was told he would find old Karel-um, which he accordingly did; after greeting him and complimenting with the time of the day, old Karel-um, in one of his eccentric moods, asked him what would be the cost to knock over a sheriff? his answer was a good milch-cow. The answer was no sooner given than old Karel-um knocked him over, and while he lay there sprawling, old Karel-um sung out, "Legh yey daar, coos-

yea blaur!" that is in English, "lay you there, coosyea blaur!" the name of the cow he intended to give the sheriff for his damages on being knocked down.

The old gentleman with all his peculiarities was not without them when he wanted to hire a man to work, when generally he made it a practice never to engage him before he had him at the table to a meal, and from his conduct at the table, the old gentleman made up his opinion whether he would answer the purpose or not, and if not, he would, after smoking his pipe, tell the man that he had consulted his foreman, Klaus, and who informed him there was no need of any more help; but the reverse, if his opinion was favorable he would engage the man if he had any work for him.

We will now undertake to relate one of the last of his eccentric peculiarities. On entering his kitchen one evening he found some of the victuals were brought home from the field; he immediately and without giving the least notice to his foreman, Klaus, gave him a rap with his cane over his shoulders; Klaus, with much surprise, asked his master what he was struck for.

"You sacremantsa hunt! what made you bring the victuals home?"

"Well, master, what should I do with them, throw them away?"

"Yes, throw them away or give them away; now to-morrow they will not give you enough, and then we will lose the work of all the hands."

As we have related before, the old gentleman departed his life in the month of March, seventeen hundred and thirty-seven or eight, and his corpse was taken for interment from the house of his son-in-law, Peter Cornu, who then lived on the south side of the Souder Hook, now called State Street, and precisely on the spot where the Utica and Schenectady Railroad is located at present; and old Karel-um was one among the first who had his funeral obsequies proclaimed by the death

knell of the present bell of the Dutch Reformed Church of Schenectady.

In peace ye shades of our great grandsires rest;
No heavy earth your sacred bones molest;
Eternal springs and rising flowers adorn
The relics of each venerable urn.

CHARLES DRYDEN.

Having described the trunk of the old tree, we shall point out a few of its limbs and branches.

KAREL HAENSEN TOLL, and ELIZABETH or LYBETYE RINCKHOUT—their children :

Eva Toll, born —: married *Evert Van Eps*, seventeen hundred and five.

Daniel Toll, born sixteen hundred and ninety-one, July the first; and married Margaret Bradt, September the eighth, seventeen hundred and seventeen. She was born sixteen hundred and eighty-six, in March; she died seventeen hundred and forty-three, in March twenty-second. Himself was murdered at the massacre of Bookendale, July or August, seventeen hundred and forty eight.

Simon Toll, born sixteen hundred and ninety-four; married Hester De Graff, seventeen hundred and twenty-eight or nine. She was born seventeen hundred and eleven, and died seventeen hundred and ninety-three. Himself died seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, after the fall of Burgoyne.

Breachie Toll married *Adrean Van Slyck*; they had issue, a son, Cornelius, who married a daughter of Joseph Yates, and a daughter Clara, who married Antony Van Slyck, the father of the present Hermanus Van Slyck, in Rotterdam.

Nciltyea or *Nailtyea Toll* married *Johannes Van Eps*, October, seventeen hundred and twenty; they had issue, two sons, that have come to my knowledge, viz: John B'st and Abraham Van Eps. The posterity of the former still retain the original homestead, and a moiety or part of old Karel Haen-

sen Toll's property in Glenville, at a place at present called Hoffman's Ferry.

Elizabeth or *Lybetyea Toll* married *Peter Cornu*, a Frenchman.

These all left numerous offsprings; and some died early, and not known to the writer, and therefore their names are not mentioned.

KAREL HAENSEN TOLL and LYBETYEA RINCKHOUT'S son and daughter-in-law, DANIEL TOLL and his wife MARGRETIE BRADT had children, viz:

Susana Toll, born February the twenty-second, seventeen hundred and eighteen.

Johanes Toll, born August the twenty-third, seventeen hundred and nineteen.

Elizabeth Toll was born seventeen hundred and twenty-one, and married *Rev. Cornelius Van Santvort*—had children.

Hannah Toll was born September the ninth, seventeen hundred and twenty-two. Married to *Thomas Ferrey*, had one child, *Daniel*, seventeen hundred and fifty-one.

Samuel Toll was born January the thirty-first, seventeen hundred and twenty-five—died without children.

Eva Toll was born November the eleventh, seventeen hundred twenty-six—died without issue.

Gertruy or *Getty Toll*—born August seventh, seventeen hundred and twenty-nine—married *Giles Clute*; they had a son *Daniel Toll Clute*, born December the eighth, seventeen hundred and fifty-four. She died August twelfth, seventeen hundred and fifty-six.

The above mentioned *Johanes Toll* was married to *Eva Van Patten*, and they left an only son, *Karel Haensen Toll*, who was born February sixteenth, seventeen hundred and forty-six, and when grown up married *Elizabeth Ryley*; and they left a numerous offspring, viz: *Hester*, *Eve*, *Rebecca*, *Maria*, *John*, *Hannah* and *Philip*.

The above Daniel Toll Clute was married to Brower Banker's daughter Nancy, and had children, viz: Gertrude, Nancy, Taneka, —, Susan, Giles, Thomas and William.

KAREL HAENSEN TOLL and his wife ELIZABETH RINCKHOUT's son SIMON and daughter-in-law HESTER DE GRAFF, had the following children:

Elizabeth Toll, born seventeen hundred and thirty, married *John Fareley*, and had five daughters and all married.

Karel Haensen Toll, born September, seventeen hundred and thirty-three, married to a Miss Kittle—had five sons and two daughters.

Alida Toll, born twenty third February, seventeen hundred and thirty-five, married *John Mabee*, and had two sons and two daughters.

Aneka Toll, born seventeen hundred and thirty-seven or eight—married to *William Kittle*, had three sons and three daughters.

Affee Toll, born seventeen hundred and thirty-nine or forty, married *Lodowick Viele*, had seven or eight sons and one daughter.

Jesse and *John Toll*, twins, born July the twenty-fourth, seventeen hundred and forty-three. Jesse died an infant—John married *Catherine Vedder*, daughter of Aaron Vedder and Sarah Van Der Bogart.

Jesse Toll, born May the eighteenth, seventeen hundred and forty-six, married *Maraityea Viele*, had several sons and daughters.

Eva Toll, born January fifteenth, seventeen hundred and forty-nine.

Daniel Toll, born October the twenty-seventh, seventeen hundred and fifty-one, married *Susan Swits*, and had the following children, viz: Hester, Folkey, Simon, Isaac, John, Karel Haensen, Jacob, Lana and Maria, and all of them have families of children with the exception of Maria.

Sarah Toll, born July the twenty-fifth, seventeen hundred and fifty-six, married *Stephanus Viele*—had several children.

SIMON TOLL and HESTER DE GRAFF's son JOHN and daughter-in-law CATHERINE VEDDER, had the following children.

Hester Toll, born June the twenty-third, seventeen hundred and sixty-five, married *Abraham Groat*, and died without issue.

Simon I. Toll, born March the twenty-second, seventeen hundred and sixty-eight, married *Maraityea Vedder*, and one daughter alive.

Aaron Toll, born August the eighteenth, seventeen hundred and seventy, died December the seventh, seventeen hundred and eighty-seven, of hydrophobia, caused by the bite of a rabid dog.

Sarah Toll, born May the thirtieth, seventeen hundred and seventy-three, married *Isaac I. De Graff*—died and left seven sons, and most of them families of children.

Daniel J. Toll, born February the twenty-fifth, seventeen hundred and seventy-six—married to Esquire John Wemple's daughter *Cathelina Wemple*, June the twentieth, in eighteen hundred and one. She was born January fifteenth, seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and February the sixteenth, in eighteen hundred and twelve, she died.

Maria Toll, born November the twenty-second, seventeen hundred and seventy-eight—married to *Nicholas V. Wemple*, died—left two sons and a daughter.

Karel Haensen Toll, born October the fourteenth, seventeen hundred and eighty-one, died a child, that is, young.

N. B. The motive of the writer of the above sketch has been altogether to record, and to redeem from oblivion, and to restore to light matters and things of the past that appertain to his family ancestors, which, if partially retained by the present generation, would, in all probability, be altogether lost

by the future. He will, therefore, discontinue this genealogical table of lineal descent, without carrying it through all its present branches and ramifications, which would be attended with endless labor and research, without any beneficial result.

We will now close this by inscribing or dedicating the above to SIMON I. TOLL, Esquire, aged seventy-nine, and the eldest person by the name of Toll in this country, and an only brother to the writer.

DANIEL J. TOLL.

Schenectady, Feb'y 25, 1847.

APPENDIX.

HAVING had occasion in the preceding sketch to speak of the Scotia mansion, the writer cannot forego a passing notice on the subject of this once felicitous and plentiful abode, which not only afforded comfort and pleasure to a guest and a friend, but dispensed aid and relief not only to the deserving industrious, but likewise to the needful and indigent poor. The original proprietor of this princely and splendid estate was Alexander Lindsey Glen, but more familiarly known by the name of Sander Landersa Glen, by the old Dutch inhabitants. He was a native of Scotland, and of noble extract, and an immediate descendant of a Scottish chieftain, who in consequence of his adhesion to the cause of Charles the First, if I am correctly informed, forfeited his title to both life and estate in consequence, which induced his descendant, Alexander Lindsey Glen, or Sander Landersa Glen to emigrate, and eventually to come to America; and after sojourning at two or three different places without satisfying himself, did, however, at last locate himself permanently in, or in the immediate environs of Dorp, or the village of Schenectady, and sometime thereafter, in sixteen

hundred and sixty-five, obtained a patent of Richard Nicols, the first English Governor of the Province of New York, for the alluvial flats opposite to Dorp, or the village of Schenectady, on the north side of the Mohawk river, then counted to be fifty morgans more or less, or one hundred acres more or less; and in honor and reverence for his native country named it Scotia. At subsequent periods, that is in sixteen hundred and sixty-nine and eighty-six, he made extensive purchases of the adjoining wood-lands.

We will now take some notice where the first dwelling-house was erected at Scotia, by Alexander Lindsey Glen, the site of which was a considerable distance to the south of where the present mansion is at present situated; but the site of the old dwelling is at present occupied by the waters of the Mohawk river. The main shore at that point has, from attrition caused by the annual freshets in the Mohawk river, crumbled and wasted away the shore or main land, so that in fact the river has usurped and occupies the very site of this ancient dwelling. Indeed the writer recollects distinctly, when a boy, between sixty and seventy years since, of seeing a large space of ground between the river bank and the present mansion, which afforded a spacious court-yard, in front a large garden, and a space left for a wagon-road, all in front, and between the river and the house; and he recollects as distinctly, that one-third of the road between Sanders' house and the Ferry, but now Mohawk Bridge, was located and used where the waters of the Mohawk river run at present. The present edifice or mansion of the Sanders family in Scotia, was erected in seventeen hundred and thirteen, as is indicated with iron figures on the facade of the building, by John Alexander Glen, but more commonly known by the old Dutch inhabitants by the name of Johanes Sandersa Glen, for his son Col. Jacob Glen; and he was enjoined by the last will and testament of his father, to build a dwelling-house for his brother, Abraham Glen, and which is the very old fashioned house at present located on

the brow of the hill or bank, a little north of the former, facing and overlooking the Scotia flats and most beautiful lake.

Here ends our story about the Glens for the present, and shall commence with the name of Sanders, who became connected in the family by marriage. In seventeen hundred and thirty-nine, at Scotia, John Sanders the elder, or first, of Scottish descent, and a wealthy merchant from Albany, married Deborah, an only child and daughter of Col. Jacob Glen of Scotia, with whom he obtained one half, or better, of the Scotia estate; and at a subsequent period, after settling and satisfying a few conflicting claims, he purchased the residue and came in possession of the whole of the estate. The issue of this marriage was Sarah, who married her cousin, John Glen, of Scotia; Maria, who married John Beekman, Esq., of Albany; Elsyea, who married Schuyler Ten Eyck, of Schenectady; Margaret, who married Kilian Van Rensselaer, Esq., of Albany, and a son, John Sanders, the younger, who married his cousin Deborah, daughter of Robert Sanders, Esq., of Albany, in seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, February twenty-four, by whom he had four sons and three daughters, viz: Barent, Robert, Jacob and Peter, Elizabeth, Sarah and Caty; and by his second marriage with Albertina Ten Broeck, from Clermont, Columbia county, in seventeen hundred and ninety-nine, he had two sons, John and Theodore. It was the younger John Sanders, at the time I am now writing about, who bore the honorable appellation of judge; and indeed the only personage in that neighborhood who bore that appellation, or even that of Mister or Master, which is so common now-a-days as to become a nuisance, and which is my only reason for mentioning it. It was him, when myself a green youth, who possessed the Scotia mansion and estate, which had more the appearance of a barony, from its stately structure and numerous out-buildings, gardens, &c., than that of a common farm-house. There were nearly a score of blacks employed about the premises, and on some occasions as many white men hired and en-

gaged in the different departments of agriculture. It is almost superfluous to mention that there was an adequate stock of horses and cattle belonging to the estate—the dwelling with its rooms crammed with the richest of furniture, and all bore the appearance, both exteriorly and interiorly of wealth, plenty and comfort; but still there was no appearance of aristocracy, and far less that of democracy, but all bore the appearance of patriarchy. Now in those days of simplicity, when there was neither show or ostentation, there was a practice of a reciprocal visit of one neighbor with another, with a portion or part of their family, and more particularly in the long winter evenings, when there would be a standard dish for supper, among both rich and poor, or at least among those who could afford it; and this consisted of souse, either in the shape of head-cheese or rullatyeas and some trimmings, such as bread and butter, a pickel and an onion, together with a bowl of chocolate and a large piece of pie. By-the-by, this pie requires a little passing notice; it was baked on a large pewter platter, measuring in circumference as large as an ordinary grindstone; the pastry was made with sweetening, in the room of having sugar grated on it; these pies were served out to the guests in triangular pieces, in form similar to the geometrical figure called a sector; it at the same time required a dexterous hand to form them regularly, which was done in the following manner: the center of the dish being correctly ascertained, the apex of the triangle would rest on this center, from which the legs of the triangle would diverge at an angle of thirty or forty degrees to the margin or periphery of the platter, and this would constitute the portion of each guest.

We shall now endeavor to give a faint outline or description of one of those friendly evening visits and recreations that took place at Mr. or Judge Sanders', which I have alluded to, and which were reciprocal through the whole neighborhood in the long winter evenings. You will figure to yourself a visit of one or two neighbors, with their vrows or wives, and per-

haps a daughter or two, and very likely a young beardless and boorish boy, to pay the family of Sanders a visit in the evening, who were received in the common sitting-room, (the *kau-mer* or parlor and drawing-rooms were not brought in requisition); when seated, the ordinary chit-chat and table-talk was carried on among the women; the Judge would be engaged with the men visitors, and would conform his language and his ideas to their capacities, and which most generally related to their horses and ploughing on their farms. When the hour of seven arrived, preparations were made for the usual supper of souse, chocolate, pie, &c.; after the supper had got through with, and things, such as table, &c., had been moved out of the way, and the family and guests deeply engaged in conversation, black General Peet would make his appearance with his fiddle under his arm, and with a becoming bow would take his stand in one corner of the room, where he would soon send forth a few spirit-stirring strains, such as the *Hunting Squirrel*, *The Girl I left behind me*, *Old Sushyea*, rounds, &c., which soon wakened up a spirit and disposition for dancing, and which was soon followed up with the sprinkling of some white sand on the floor, for there were no carpets in those days; soon after this a voice was heard, not exactly "Come, let us pray," but "Come, let us dance." This was no sooner proclaimed but a group of old and young, from grandmother to grand-daughter, would be on the floor, marshaling themselves in a form for a dance. Dancing would then continue through all its forms, including jigs and hornpipes, until the old folks became tired and fatigued, then after this for the younger portion of the company to continue the dance; it became necessary to make a requisition on the kitchen for relief, where there were a score of darkeys of all ages and genders and descriptions, which soon furnished the requisite relief, and accordingly a dance filled up with Sambo and Dina—Sambo having his young missa for his partner, and as likely Dina her young massa. Sambo would, however, show evident marks

of uneasiness, as if he was conscious of being out of his proper place; he, however, soon recovered himself, and obtained his ordinary composure, which was soon followed with the dancing and rolling of his luminaries, and the showing of his ivory, accompanied with a significant shake or nod of his head and a very shrewd look, as if he would say, "I can go it, massa." Dina, on the opposite side, would respond, "and I too." No sooner did the scraping or sound of the violin fall upon Sambo's ear, but what his whole person became electrified, away he would start, moving through the dance with all the science, agility and nimbleness of a professed dancing-master. After dancing had got through with, and the sensitive olfactories of the whites had got satiated with a *quantum sufficit* of African effluvia, Sambo would receive a hint, and would leave the room with a profound bow, saying "Thank you, massa," extremely well pleased and tickled; when he arrived in the kitchen he would sing out, "Well darr, Joe, I beat massa and tudder white-a man too, by jingo!" Now after a few of General Peet's buffooneries and monkey capers, the company would break up, and this would constitute one of the winter evening visits to Judge Sanders', and would be a subject of evening conversation for a month thereafter.

This is what we folks now-a-days would call aristocracy, for the reason that the judge was considered rich, and lived in somewhat of a different style from the rest of his neighbors. If so, I should prefer it by far to our present democracy. But *miserable dictu!* we are in the full tide of progressive democracy, which carries with it in its wake a leveling and agrarian disposition, together with anti-rentism and its congenial and kindred spirit which will never allow that happy and comfortable state of society that pervaded the whole community in those days when the ordinary boor or the poor man could look upon the rich and wealthy, and the black or slave upon his master without envy or malice, and pursue their avocation in their own usual way which they had learned and copied from

their forefathers, and with which they felt perfectly content. I feel perfectly willing and disposed to believe that democracy has a direct tendency to develop the human energy to its utmost point of tension, and am equally willing to believe that its elementary character is not only baneful and deleterious, but absolutely destructive to religion and sound morals; and this is not the only evil to complain of, but by its immodest and daring presumption it usurps and supplants merit for or with demerit in all places and posts of distinction, honor and trust. The bad consequences of which we experience daily, and are likely to have them continued, from all appearance.

This may appear harsh and severe to a political demagogue. All I can say to that is, if the democratic government of France when the guillotine held the sceptre and the people were ruled by Jacobinic frenzy, during the revolution and reign of Robespierre; and need I inform or remind my readers that during this reign of Maximillian Robespierre, that the sacred and divine precepts of holy religion and church, and even the Deity were traduced, defiled and ridiculed by the abominable and sacrilegious farce of introducing a common bawd or theatrical actress dressed in gaudy attire, with much ceremony and pomp, into the legislative hall, seated on a throne by the side of the President, to represent the God of common sense, in contradiction to God divine, and the downward tendency of our own is not a sufficient lesson to show him that a democratic government is a mere chimerical humbug, then the fault is not mine, and am perfectly willing he should adhere to his unbridled democracy, which first sprang in life in the United States, and he may live, or some one after him, to see it die there. Democracy answers a very good purpose for food for political demagogues, and to flatter the sympathy of a parasitical sycophant or a hypocritic philanthropist, but it still answers better as a political highway to lead to anarchy and barbarism—your school and Sunday-school system, your temperance societies, with abolitionism to boot notwithstanding.

The following, although not in accordance with the original design of the above sketch, we have, however, thereby inadvertently been reminded of the following reminiscences and tender recollections, which awakens the mind to the great contrast that exists between the present and former times, as it respects the appellation of our female community, and as it regards their usefulness. Formerly the common appellation of woman was applied to those that were married, and that of girls and maids or old maids to those that were unmarried; they however, nevertheless, made excellent wives and house-keepers, with a few exceptions, as in all cases, although they did not consider it their province to spend their time in idleness, and to play up the lady, they were, however, not altogether destitute of recreation and amusement, but far otherwise; and one of those was in visiting a neighbor in parties, and which was in the following manner: the time and place being agreed upon, they would leave home at one o'clock, but not at four or five o'clock, as our ladies now-a-days, and on leaving home, the one would take her spinning-wheel, the other with her sowing-basket, and another with her knitting, the remainder with their etceteras; their dress, generally, on those occasions consisted of a pair of French high-heel shoes, blue stockings, with a gore of white on each side of the ankle, a callamanco petticoat, a chintz short gown, and in high times, a black ribbon around the waist, whose ends would generally be of some length and left floating in the air, a check apron and a high crowned cap, with a few trimmings, a large side-pocket, wrought with rich patchwork, hanging by their side, and containing various necessities, but to the exclusion of a quizzing-glass. This constituted their going abroad dress:—now having arrived at the dwelling of their host, they would, after the passing of the usual greeting and compliments with their host, which follow on those occasions, they would set themselves in the room and arrange themselves in the most convenient order and commence their work, and for edification

and instruction they would carry on a conversation on house-keeping, weaving and spinning, the making of linen and the art of good cooking, generally and most certainly how to do washing and cleaning house well. Now precisely at four o'clock the tea-table was to be prepared and ready; but if the time could not be ascertained by a house-clock or sun-dial, three or four of the women would step out of doors and stare old Sol in the face and ascertain the precise time, at least as they supposed to their satisfaction, for the table to be prepared. This, by-the-by, was no ordinary undertaking, on account of its magnitude, which was a large round table, standing against the wall, which had facilities of being let down and of being raised up; this was required to be brought to the middle of the room, which took almost as much labor as to move a cider-mill, and which would then be covered with a diaper table-cloth, as white as the driven snow; the teacups and saucers arranged in a circle around the outer edge of the table, and by the side of each cup and saucer was placed a large slice of bread, a knife, a lump of maple sugar, and on high days a lump of loaf sugar, in the center a large sugar-bowl, a plate of dried smoked beef, elegantly cut with a jack-plane, a tea-saucer filled with powdered or grated pot-cheese (which, by-the-by, was equal to the best Parmesan cheese Italy produces,) and not forgetting a large plate of butter, the remainder of etceteras was made up of krullas, ola kooks and wauffles, which generally constituted the festive board. Things being all ready the old matron would invite them to the table, saying "Come vrouw-lay, sit yully baye;" now after eating and drinking with a full modicum of chit chat on the excellency of the things on the table, the teacups would become empty; they were then to be replenished, but mind not with a salver and handed around as now-a-days, but a buxom girl, blessed with roseate cheeks and florid countenance would get up, and with a tea-pot in each hand—the one filled with the infusion, the other filled with hot water—to enable her to let them have it strong or weak,

according to their taste; thus equipped, she would pour the tea through the intervals or spaces left between the guests setting round the table; but should they be so hustled or crowded together so close as to make this impracticable, she would, under such circumstances, be obliged to pour the tea over their heads and shoulders, and would, on some occasions, have the misfortune of spilling a little hot tea, or of ruffling or bruising one of their caps; then you would hear a vociferation, "Hara yate yes paussyea, up maine mutze yow voordoomda smutz!" This would cause a little fluttering around the table, but that difficulty, however, was soon forgot by quaffing and sipping their favorite beverage and partaking of the dainties the tea-table afforded. After finishing their tea, every one set down to her work until near sun-down and no longer, so as to enable her to reach home in good season to manage her own household affairs, as all good house-keepers feel disposed to do. We, however, would not wish to be understood that we had no ladies in former times; so far from it, that in addition to women and girls, we had some venerable matrons who possessed all the attributes that would properly entitle them to the dignified appellation of ladies, who were richly endowed, possessing a dignified appearance, pleasing manners, a well cultivated mind, and able to trace their pedigree to an honorable ancestry, and like unto Lucretia, the wife of Collatinus, a Roman nobleman, who would not spend her time in ease and luxury, but be spinning in the midst of her maids, cheerfully portioning out their task, and thus would our matrons instil and infuse the same industrious, frugal and dignified character of her own into her daughter, which would likewise entitle them to the same dignified appellation of ladies; and if a likely, spruce looking young man should have the good fortune to obtain the hand of one of them, he would consider her a fortune in her person, independent of her feather-beds, silver mug and spoons, milch-cow and a good many other etceteras that would follow his matrimonial connection. But alas! O

tempora, O mores! we have fallen on other times, and the reader will judge for himself, whether for the better or for the worse. The whole of our female community have been or are metamorphosed into ladies—it matters not whether white or black—old or young—rich or poor—whether good, bad or indifferent, they all are called ladies, although few or none of them understand the meaning of the term lady.

But kind reader, you must not allow yourself to be led away into the belief that they consider each other on an equal footing, but far otherwise; there is very often an inkling of jealousy that manifests itself openly on many occasions, nor neither should you believe that there is no field for strife and competition to obtain the palm and ascendancy in the estimation of the public for the greatest ladyship.

One of the modes of obtaining the ascendancy, or to reach the top of the heap, as neighbor Cosyea would say, is to put on your best bib and tucker and leave home with your affairs all sixes and sevens, and let your work take care of itself—flirt away along the street, and do not forget or neglect to waddle a little after the manner of the web-footed animal called a duck; this is very essential to catch the eyes of folks, which will cause them to take notice of you. Make your calls, and leave your gilt card, but be sure and carry with you your sun-shade, and present, or rather hold it before your face, (not, as a wag would say, as a mere show—not at all; but certainly as a sun-shade.) But, by-the-by, those sun-shades are not without their use; they protect the face, sunshine or no sun-shine, and cover their countenances; which last, however, is not so effectual; but one less skilled in physiognomy than Lavater, is able to discover the order of society to which they belong. But to arrive at the ne plus ultra of ladyship, you must, when in conversation with your neighbor, and more particularly with a stranger, disdain all knowledge of housekeeping, even the most essential and necessary part of it, and be sure, at the same time during your conver-

sation, to perform a most graceful wriggle with your neck, head and body, and by all means you must lisp every word you speak: and if, by chance, any untoward circumstance should take place, even the barking of a dog, or a sudden rap at the door, pretend to be alarmed; endeavor to faint, and make as much fuss as you can, and that, if any thing, will secure the aspirant a claim to be considered the *perfectus perfectorum* of all ladies.

Now the summary of the above is simply this: that our former matrons, women and girls, were industrious, frugal, tidy and clean house-keepers, at all times exhibiting ample evidence of their worth by promoting the interest and comfort of their families, not only in words and pretensions, but in actions; whereas, in our present polished and enlightened state, when the true philosopher's stone has been found, by which our modern would-be ladies have discovered that hard work is not easy done, and that it is all sufficient to attend to the toilet, and there to display some taste in the arrangements of the boudoir, and at the same time not to forget the center-table, decked with a few novels, and be sure not to neglect to make a display of the gilt visiting cards. I had almost forgot the album, which ought to lay open, to exhibit the profound sentiments, and very often the fruit of a weak and imbecile intellect, and an uncultivated mind, which these spruce young dandies, accoutred with their mustaches, imperials and whiskers, very often stain those beautiful sheets of their album. And now, after all this, to pay some attention to a few exotic plants and flowers, or a parterre in miniature, in some convenient part of the house, and after the fatigue of all this, ladies who claim to belong to the uppermost class will require an airing or a drive in the country; but mind not in a carriage of four wheels, but figuratively speaking, in a carriage of five wheels; and if the husband's means or circumstances cannot bear it, his credit, if he has any, must, and leave it for somebody to pay the piper, and for which the facility of taking

the benefit of the insolvent act, or of making an assignment makes ample provision. By-the-by, it is no uncommon occurrence for some to make an assignment as often as they can obtain credit to the amount that will make it a profitable speculation, or to play up the new game which has lately got in vogue; that is, to pay two shillings on the dollar, and repeat this as often as you can make it convenient, affords a very comfortable way of making property. These are the very characters that live on the fat of the land, and at the expense and sweat of their neighbor's brow; and these very creatures instead of receiving the frowns and merited contempt of the public, are, with what we consider the enlightened and improved state of the times, called clever fellows.

In some part of the preceding context I allowed my mind to soar a little in speaking figuratively of a carriage with five wheels; it is, however, neither jest or fiction; we have, in reality, what is called a three wheeled carriage or vehicle; and now whether this form of carriage is adopted for convenience, superior utility or for show concerns no one but the owner. But we cannot be debarred from the privilege to think and believe that those who jaunt and parade through our streets with this kind of vehicle, can, with much propriety, bid defiance to all competition, and leave all aspirants far in the shade. Much more might have been said, but let the above suffice for the present.

Angeltjea and Klausyea and Peterum's Katreen,
 Waur komt ji van dawn and waur gaun ji hane?
 With your round scooped ladles and schuttle mut sapaun,
 Gooden morgen, Klausum, waur komt ji van dawn.

The writer of the above is Dutch,
 Although the reader may be English;
 You know worse things may happen than such,
 'Though you may laugh some when you finish.

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