

if he be blessed with sharp perceptive faculties, that my new house indicated a worthy and sensible purpose. Being now married and living ^{m. Nov. 13, 1836} at home, I partially forgot my past trials and troubles, but it was not long before a sad accident befel me. On the 29th day of March, 1837, I was engaged clearing a piece of timbered land, and while dislodging a tree that had fallen against another, I was severely wounded, and rendered unable to work for nearly a year.

It was now three years since I had seen my father and family; I concluded, therefore, as soon as I was able to travel, to go and see how they were getting along. I found them living an unfavorable, and I might say uncomfortable condition. My younger brother had left them and had been gone nearly a year. My father insisted that I should come and take care of him as he was in a helpless condition. I returned home, and it was a year before I could make arrangements to pay them another visit. I found my father ^{ENTHRALLED} with debts, and much reduced in circumstances. I went back home, and returned with my family to my father's, erected for myself a good hewed log house on his premises, and with my own money discharged the principal and most pressing debts against him. And, generous readers, owing to misfortune, I had gained only about \$300 in my three years absence; but although my portion was but scant, I gave it with good will.

My attention was first directed towards making repairs, and in arrangements for seed-time and harvest. By the time I had made one crop, all my means were exhausted, and the experience of one crop enabled me to see most clearly that on such land in that old country, I could not support two families, and consequently, in the spring of 1840, I moved back and settled in the woods, not far from