Manuscripts: Various titles

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Capt. John Lamar was riding to mill with his father one very hot day. As they drove along the hot road they saw a boy sitting on the top rail of an old fashioned stake and rider worm fence. When they came close they saw that the boy was reading. His father turning to him said: "John, look at that boy, son. I mark my words. He will make a smart man out of himself. I may not see it but you'll see if my words don't come true." The boy was Abraham Lincoln.

Capt. Lamar tells another good story about the early days: "Uncle Jimmy Larkin, every body called him, was a great hero in my childish eyes. Why, I can not now say if it was his manners. There had been a big "Fox Chase" and Uncle Jimmy was telling about it. Of course he was the hero. I was only a little shaver and I stood in front of Uncle Jimmy looking up into his eyes, but he never noticed me. He looked at Abraham Lincoln and said, 'Like I've got the best horse in the world,' he won the ride & never drank a long
breath; but, she paid no attention to Uncle Jimmy & I got mad at the big overgrown fellow & wanted him to listen to my hero's story. Uncle Jimmy was determined that he should hear & repeated the story: 'I say, Abe, I have the best horse in the world: after all that running he never drew a long breath.' Then Abe looked down at my little dancing hero & said, 'Well, Larkins, why don't you tell us how many short breaths he drew?' This raised a laugh on Uncle Jimmy & he got mad & declared he'd fight Abe if he wasn't as big. He cussed & jumped around until Abe quietly said, 'Now, Larkins, if you don't shut up I'll throw you in that water.' I was very uneasy & angry at the way my hero was treated, but I liked to change my views about heroes. When Abraham Lincoln came back near the house one time I heard him & Mr. Isaiah Crawford talking about the Spire Box or Cabinet. Uncle Isaiah asked: 'Have you got the knife I gave you for it Abe?' & Abe answered 'Yes, here it is but I spent the money for other things long ago.'
When I heard them talking I asked what kind of a spice cabinet he had made. Uncle Josiah sent me in to look at it. At the sale I bought it and presented it to Capt. Hartman of Evansville. Whenever Abraham dined he met any of the old Indiana neighbors he asked inquired for all the others; showing that he remembered all.

If my father's prophecy was fulfilled, not gloriously, Abraham Lincoln was a successful man.