Manuscripts: Various titles

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Capt. John Lamar tells of riding to mill with his father one very hot day. As they went 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. He had not noticed their approach. His father turning to him said: "John, look at that boy Jemmy, and 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 as everybody called him was a great hero in my childish eyes. Why, I can not now say without it was his manners. There had been a big "Fox Chase." 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. He looked at Abraham Lincoln and said, "He I've got the best horse in the world, he won the race and never drew a long.
breath, but, he 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, Larkin, 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 so big. He cursed & jumped around until Abe quietly said, "Now Larkin 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 once more to me, one time I heard him and Mr. Isaiah Crawford talking about the Spider Box or Cabinet. Uncle Josiah asked, "Have you got the knife I gave you for it Abe?" And the 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 & presented it to Capt. Hartman of Evansville. Whenever Abraham dined he met any of the old Indiana neighbors he would inquire for all the others, showing that he remembered all. Yes, my father's prophecy was fulfilled; not gloriously, Abraham Lincoln was a successful man.