

RIGHT SORT OF MAN.

A Union County Farmer Who Set An Example Worthy of Emulation.

*Madeleine Our Times.*

Solomon, Marsh, Sr., grandfather of Mr. Jas. A. Marsh, of this township, came to Union county from Connecticut. In disposition he was not like most men of his age, and in all this country now there is no man possessed of a character just like his. A man like that would be out of harmony with this greedy "commercial" age, when men are judged by what they possess. His life was one of industry, and idleness was something that didn't come within the range of his experience. If a man owed him money and came to the field and called to him to come out to the road and get money, he wouldn't stop to get it, but would answer: "Put it on the stump there and lay a rock on it—I'll get it at dinner," or "Throw it under that apple tree—I'll pass there and get it when I take out tonight." You'd think that a man who was too busy to stop his plow to receive money was a queer man. Perhaps you'd think he was a greedy man—a dollar-worshipping man, with a heart like steel and with no sympathy for his fellowman.

Solomon Marsh, Sr., the father of one set of the Marsh family in this county, was by nature a philanthropist—a man of broad view and remarkable liberality. If a man came to him on a wagon, with the money to buy corn, he would decline to sell to him. He argued to him that inasmuch as he had a wagon and team he could easily go further to buy corn. There were neighbors around him who had neither team nor money and he felt it his duty to accommodate the latter class, and by "accommodate" we don't mean to imply that it was the modern way of "accommodating," by selling at 50 or 100 per cent "time prices."

The history of the man we refer to is "traditional history"—the kind of history that lives whether it is written or not. It is said that one Sunday he attended services at a church that held to a different creed from that of his faith. He was delayed a little and when he reached the church it was crowded and the preacher had begun his sermon. He quietly sat down at the door step and in that humble attitude listened attentively to the sermon. As the preacher warmed up on his doctrinal sermon he began to throw mud thick and fast at other denominations. The old man Marsh bowed his head in meditation. Finally he raised up, looked back over his shoulder and addressed this remark to the fire-eating sectarian preacher: "Preach the gospel, and let other people alone!" It is said that the preacher took his advice and tried to get back within the legitimate bounds of the gospel.

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