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BRISTOL, N. B.

An Accomodating Judge.

From 1818 to 1830 justice in the backwoods was administered in the courts without much show. parade or ceremony, the judges were gentlemen of sense and some learning, who held their courts in log houses, or in the bar-rooms of taverns fitted up for the purpose with a temporary bench for the judge and chairs or benches for the lawyers and jurors.

At the first circuit court in Washington county, held by Judge J. Reynolds, on the day of the opening of the court, the sheriff went out into the courtyard and said to the people, "Boys, come in, our John is going to hold court." This was the proclamation for opening the court. In general the judges were averse to deciding points of law. They did not like the responsibility of offending one or the other of the parties. They preferred to submit everything they could to be decided by the jury.

One of these judges presided at court when a man named Green was tried and convicted of murder, and it became his unpleasant duty to pronounce sentence upon the culprit. He called the prisoner before him and said to him.

"Mr. Green, the jury say you are guilty of murder, and the law says you are to be hung. I want you to tell your friends down on Indian Creek that it was not I who condemned you, it is the jury and the law. Mr. Green, what time would you like to be hung? the law allows time for preparation." Mr, Green said, "May it please your honour, I am ready at any time: those who kill the body have no power to kill the soul; my preparation is made, and I am ready at any time the court pleases."

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The judge replied, "Mr. Green, it is a very serious matter to be hung. It can't happen to a man but once in his life, and you had better take all the time you can get. Mr. Clerk, look at the almanac and see if this day four weeks comes on a Sunday.

The clerk did as requested, and reported that that day four weeks came on a Thur d y.

"Then," said the judge, "Mr. Green, the court will give you till this day four weeks, you understand the whole matter don't you? you know that you have got to be hung."

"Yes," said the prisoner.

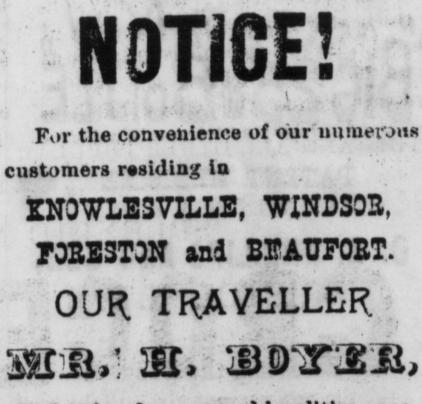
"Then, Mr. Sheriff, let the prisoner be remanded and adjourn the court."

To Our Subscribers.

The publication of this Special number, and the extremely cold weather, have interferred very much with the regular issue. We purpose however to make amends by publishing

AN EXTRA NUMBER Which will be mailed to all our_regular subscribers a few days before

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