

dealer at Cambridgeport, and let himself immediately to Mr. Bent for the term of six months for his board, no other compensation. Fortunately he boarded in Mr. Bent's family, and thus became acquainted with Mrs. Bent, who afterwards proved a valuable friend. At the expiration of the six months, Mr. Bent made him a present of ten dollars and a hat (which he got out of a bad debt), and advanced his wages, for the future, to ten dollars a month and board. After working in this way for some time, Mr. Bent had occasion to discharge his foreman on the wharf, and requested Josiah to take his place and still continue to perform the duties of book-keeper, which he consented to do; but when, some time later, the young man, who was doing double duty, asked for an advance in his wages, it was refused, whereupon he left and let himself in a grocery store in Boston for fifteen dollars a month. This was in 1828. For the three following years he was engaged in the grocery and lumber business alternately (being for a few months in the employ of Burrage & Bowman) with wavering and doubtful success. In 1831, at the expiration of eighteen months of labor for himself in a lumber and grocery business, he found that he possessed a capital of three hundred dollars, just the amount he had when he went in eighteen months before. At this time Mr. Bent, his former employer, died, leaving a son to continue the business he left.

Now came the reward of the young man's former