

Have you heard from good Professor Larrabee? I am ashamed to say I have not written to him yet, but shall do [so] in a day or two. He ought to have a least 20 or 30 copies of the pamphlet, when it comes out. Do you think he has ever repented accepting a position, which exposed him to bigotry, as a mark to be shot at? He ought not to repent. He has aided in a successful effort to advance a great and good cause.

I send you a number of an English paper which my father occasionally sends us—the “Leader”—ably edited. You will find (p. 494) an address to my father; and, at pp. 490 and 494 (2d column), articles worth reading. Believe me, ever, My dear Mrs Bolton

faithfully yr friend

Mrs Sarah T. Bolton

Robert Dale Owen

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#### THE FIRST STEAMBOAT ON WHITE RIVER

Some time between 1870 and 1880, John Scott Elder wrote an account of his experiences as a river pilot. Born in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1802, this colorful character had many adventures as he guided steamboats up and down mid-western rivers. In 1906, Emma Carleton contributed a portion of the old pilot's story, that relating to a trip on White river, to the *Indiana Magazine of History* (II, 95-96), which is reproduced below.

In 1829, I continued on the steamboat “Victory”, running up and down the Ohio river until near the last of August; then the “Victory” laid up to repair. I then went aboard of the steamboat “Traveler,” William Sanders, master, bound for New Orleans. Yellow fever was raging in New Orleans at this time. After our safe return from New Orleans, I asked Captain Sanders for my discharge: he would not hear of it, and went up to Louisville—our boat was lying at Shippingsport. When he returned he said: “I have got a full load to go up White river to Spencer.” White river empties into the Wabash river near Mt. Carmel, though on the opposite side of the river; Spencer is in Indiana. So we loaded the boat with salt, and went on our way. Henry Christopher was still my pardner, and neither of us was ever up White river, but we went on our way up the Wabash to Mt. Carmel, then up the White River. White river is a small stream and very crooked; we went over mill-dams, though the water was high, and we finally arrived at Spencer. The steamboat “Traveler” was the first steamboat that ever turned a wheel on White river; William Sanders, master.

The water commenced falling so we had to hurry out our load of salt, and go out of the river as soon as possible. Saptain Sanders, said we would run down the river about thirty miles, land some passengers, and stay there all night, as we had told him we could not run in the night. It was Christopher's first watch. We went on down White river and landed the passengers, some time in the fore part of the night. The

Captain then said, "We will go on to-night. Christopher said nothing", and away we went. I told Christopher if he could stand it, I could. So my pardner stood watch until twelve o'clock and then called me up. When I took hold of the wheel I do not think I was ever in such a bad fix in my life, for a man that is a pilot can generally see the river all the way ahead of him. However, I told my pardner that I would go it blind, if there was ever any one time in my life when I longed for the light of day that was the time. So we continued on down and I heard the chickens crow, then I knew it was not long until daylight. The first thing I knew we went into the Wabash river, then I was all right. The Wabash, after White river, appeared to be as wide as the Mississippi and we went on our way repoicing to Louisville, without accident.

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#### GRAHAM, FROMAN AND HARRISON FAMILIES

By ANNIE LEE SAMUEL

The following data on the Kentucky branches of these prominent families may be of value to descendants who are interested in genealogical work. Many of these descendants moved farther on and settled in Indiana, Missouri and other new states.

##### Revolutionary Soldiers of Kentucky.

(Soldiers of the American Revolution Year Book, Kentucky Society, 1896.)

Amos Graham—Washington County, Kentucky.

Pensioner under the Act of June 7, 1832.

Began March 4, 1831.

Amos Graham, private, Virginia militia, Feb. 28, 1833: \$40, age 74.

Thomas Graham—Mercer County, Kentucky.

Pensioner under the Act of June 7, 1832.

Began March 4, 1831.

Thomas Graham, private and sergeant—Virginia militia.

May 30, 1833: \$87, age 75.

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##### Marriage Licenses, 1792-1825, Washington County, Kentucky.

Date of License	Names of Parties	Parent or Guardian.
March 14, 1797	William Graham and Susannah Caskey .....	
Oct. 18, 1797	John Jackson and Nancy Graham .....	Mary A. Graham
Sept. 24, 1806	John Graham and Catherine Jones .....	
July 11, 1810	John Graham and Polly Lowe .....	Samuel Lowe