

**THE DOWNING LEGENDS.
STORIES IN RHYME: THE WITCH
OF SHILOH; THE LAST OF THE
WAMPANOAGS; THE GENTLE
EARL; THE ENCHANTED VOYAGE**

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The Downing legends. Stories in rhyme: The witch of shiloh; The Last of the wampanoags; The Gentle Earl; The Enchanted Voyage by J. W. DeForest

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J. W. DEFOREST

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J. W. DeForest (1892)

THE DOWNING LEGENDS

Stories in Rhyme

THE WITCH OF SHILOH
THE LAST OF THE WAMPANOAGS
THE GENTLE EARL
THE ENCHANTED VOYAGE

BY

J. W. DeFOREST

AUTHOR OF A LOVER'S REVOLT, THE ODDITY OF COURTSHIPS, IRENE THE MISSIONARY,
PLAYING THE MISCHIEF, JUSTINE'S LOVERS, HONEST JOHN VANE, THE WETHER-
ELL AFFAIR, KATE BEAUMONT, OVERLAND, MISS SAVENEL'S CONVERSION,
SEACLIFF, EUROPEAN ACQUAINTANCE, ORIENTAL ACQUAINTANCE,
WITCHING TIMES, ETC., ETC.

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PREFACE

In regard to form the Downing Legends are rhymed "magazine stories."

In regard to spirit they are extravaganzas. They will not be liked except by readers who like such works as the *Odyssey*, the *Arabian Nights*, the *Orlando Innamorato* of Boiardo and Berni, the *Orlando Furioso* of Ariosto, the *Pilgrim's Progress*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *Knickerbocker's History of New York*, and *Hawthorne's Wonder Tales*.

Of course Downing is American "manifest destiny" in a whimsical guise. As to an exact correspondence between his adventures and our national doings I leave that question to Congress, the Supreme Court and the American people, sitting in joint referendum.

These adventures will no doubt be stigmatized by critic Gradgrind as incredible, unpractical and absurd. From his judgment I appeal confidently, like any other author, to remote posterity.

Good old Mr. Feeble Mind (well known to admirers of Bunyan) will also have somewhat to say, which will not be clearly understood, and so need not be answered, at least not prophetically.

EXPLANATORY NOTES.

THE WITCH OF SHILOH.

Section, Line.

- 2 24 *Giles Cory* was pressed to death at Salem, 1692, for refusing to plead to the charge of witchcraft.
- 18 1 *Eyen* = Eyes.
- 21 35 *Flyted* = flitted.
- 24 28 *Throwed a transformation*. From "Threw a fit."
- 39 18 *Nipton*. Old seashore form of Neptune, sometimes used for Satan.
- 42 30 *Shingle whacking*. Spinning a toad aloft by putting it on one end of a balanced shingle and hitting the other end with a bludgeon.

THE LAST OF THE WAMPANOAGS.

- 1 2 *Baldybird*. The bald eagle.
- 4 24 *Metacom* = King Philip, or Philip of Pokanoket. Killed 1676.
- 30 3 *Withouten* = without.

THE GENTLE EARL.

- 5 11 *To wect* = To wit; to know; to note.
- 17 12 *Brandon's Isle* = St. Brandon's Isles.
- 20 6 *A-gley* = Astray.