

**JAMIE PARKER,
THE FUGITIVE**

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Jamie Parker, the fugitive by Mrs. Emily Catharine Pierson

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MRS. EMILY CATHARINE PIERSON

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BY

MRS. EMILY CATHARINE PIERSON.

"There is no flesh in man's obdurate heart,
It does not feel for man; the natural bond
Of brotherhood is severed as the flax
That falls asunder at the touch of fire,
He finds his fellow guilty of a crime
Not colored like his own; and having power
To endorse the wrong for such a worthy cause,
Dooms and devotes him as his lawful prey."—Cooper.

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PREFACE.

The materials of this sketch were gathered during a residence at the South. Pleasant reminiscences of kind friends there, render it impossible for the writer to cherish sectional prejudices. Like many southerners, however, she can not shut her eyes to the deformity of that Power that casts so dark a shade of guilt on our land. Cradled among New England hills and with hearty sympathies for the heroes of freedom of all ages, and of every country, she can not view unmoved the life-and-death struggles of those now flying from a degrading servitude.

It is believed that very few, for a moment, even in imagination, enter the cabin of the poor man at the South, putting their soul in his soul's stead—much less dwelling on the minute and ever-repeated details of his life of toil and privation. And although thousands of this class have shown themselves to be men with great souls, by their aspirations for liberty; although they

have proved themselves noble heroes by "struggling with misfortunes as with a load," by invincibly conquering an opposing army of difficulties—

"Breasting the dark storm; the red bolt defying;"

surmounting all, and gaining the glorious boon of freedom; yet how few of us have followed with our kind sympathies, even one of these wonderful overcomers, in his perilous course of honorable achievement.

To give a glimpse of the distresses of the poor southern laborer, and of the stern struggler for freedom, the writer launches her little work on the sea of Public Opinion. May it plead effectually for the hunted outcast, and for the three millions of our enslaved countrymen.

FEBRUARY, 1851.

ANALYSIS OF CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.

The planter's advertisement. Some account of Jamie. Old Scipio. Hog Minder General. Inventory of Jamie's family. Sketch of old Scipio. His cabin. Old Agga. The slave preacher. The key of knowledge withheld.

CHAPTER II.

Jamie in Scipio's cabin. Usefully employed. He commences learning to read. Surprise from the patrol. Jamie punished by the overseer.

CHAPTER III.

Agga restores Scipio. He goes to the Quarter for Jamie. Overseer Brazen's management. Decline of Scipio. Mrs. Chadwick's visit. A triumphant death.

CHAPTER IV.

Jamie a field-laborer. A responsible character. The foreman. Jinny. Foreman Ned. The field-hands hoeing corn. Aunt Mag and her bakery. The field breakfast. Plantation hours.

CHAPTER V.

Lowance Sunday. The key-basket. Mrs. Dorothy. Jamie's Bible returned. Slave John's escape. Malice of Brazen. Kindness of Mrs. Chadwick. Tray. Sick Kitt. Spinning Jinny. The overseer reprimanded. Jinny's task.

CHAPTER VI.

Mrs. Chadwick and daughters go North. Overseer Brazen's wife. Two turkeys missing. Brazen and Ned's conspiracy. Mrs. Brazen a literary character.

CHAPTER VII.

Letter from the North. Loss of Judy and Rose. Efforts to take them. Their worth. Mrs. Chadwick afflicted. Want of money.

CHAPTER VIII.

New sorrow for Jinny and her sons. No friend to help. Sabbath. Court day.

CHAPTER IX.

Jinny's sons in the court house jail. Auction. Jamie sold. The sale of Tray. The hammer goes down on little Kitt. Similar articles disposed of. Sales necessary. Redfield's estate. Little Ella. Contrasts.

CHAPTER X.

Preparation for a journey. A bargain made. Black Brownson exposed to slavery. Gripe's disappointment. Laments his stupidity. Cruelty. The caravan stops for the night.

CHAPTER XI.

The encampment supper. Soul-buyers helples. Jamie's plan for the escape. Slave fear. The flight.

CHAPTER XII.

Jinny a maniac. What the fugitive must expect. Jamie and his companions. The buyers at the encampment. A discovery. The pursuit. Progress of Jamie and those with him.

CHAPTER XIII.

An encounter. Fears. Kind treatment. Old Archy's plans for their safety. They seek the mountain cave.

CHAPTER XIV.

God made the slave's hiding-places. The cave is found. Gripe and his overseer disappointed. Return to the encampment. Go to Richmond. Slave-dealer's advertisement. Sensation.

CHAPTER XV.

Reckoning with conscience. Letter from Saratoga. Mr. Chadwick distressed. Writes to his daughters.

CHAPTER XVI.

Archy and Carlo set out for the cave. Gumbrey and Tray. A happy meeting. Sufferings of comrades left behind. Jamsie resolves to go to their help. Discovers their hiding-place. He gives them food and persuades them to follow him.

CHAPTER XVII.

Sadness in the cave. Fifty hunters. Jamsie and his companions overpowered. Rejoicings at the inn. Rum the moderator. Secret departure of the captors.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Solitude in the cave for Jamsie. Tray's anxiety. Ella is seized with a raging fever. Archy's visit. He returns for medicine. Encounter the patrol. Archy and Edy at the cave. Ella dies.

CHAPTER XIX.

Jamsie in jail. Gripe's good bargain. Jamsie again a field-hand. Redfield. Overseer Turk. Jupe, the young giant. The deed of blood. Jupe is taken. Jinny's grave. Jamsie escapes. George Whitely, Esq., discovers that overseer Turk is dead. Jupe's sentence and execution.

CHAPTER XX.

Jamsie returns to the cave. The fugitives set out for the North. Reach a free state. The good Quaker. Important to the South. Mr. Whitely writes to a Philadelphia friend. The reply. Conscientiousness.

CHAPTER XXI.

The New York Committee of Vigilance welcome the flying strangers. Arrive in Rochester. John's cottages. Judy and Rose. Meeting of the free family. Conclusion.