

**ABOLITIONISM UNVEILED
OR, ITS ORIGIN, PROGRESS
AND PERNICIOUS TENDENCY
FULLY DEVELOPED**

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Abolitionism unveiled or, Its origin, progress and pernicious tendency fully developed by
Henry Field James

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HENRY FIELD JAMES

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O R I G I N,

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BY

HENRY FIELD JAMES,
(OF KENTUCKY.)

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

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P R E F A C E.

THAT the United States are involved in very great and momentous domestic difficulties, must be obvious to all. The future portends most serious commotions. The Author was insensibly led to inquire, by what means, and by what agency, had this great nation been brought into so perilous a condition? Why was it that alienation had been produced between North and South; until it had become so *bitter* that civil war is ready to burst forth in one of the Territories?

He could not fail to trace these *immense evils* to the fanatical spirit of ABOLITIONISM. To write a history of its origin, progress, and pernicious tendency, the Author felt an irresistible impulse. But he must confess, he entered upon the task with great distrust in his own abilities to do so great a subject anything like adequate justice. He dares not flatter himself that he could make the development in a style so captivating, it would win its way to public notice and favor. For years he has waited, in the hope some more vigorous pen would embark in this undertaking. But he has waited in vain. The Author, therefore, throws himself upon the generosity of the public, in the full persuasion, that it will appreciate his effort, to restore concord and harmony in our National Councils.

(iii)

His object is, not to create fresh irritations; but "to pour oil upon the troubled waters." ABOLITIONISM, unfortunately, has a fascination North truly astonishing; to open the eyes of those under its influence is nearly hopeless; and yet it is in that region, if the Union is to be preserved, the change in public sentiment must be effected.

But the Author takes a pleasure in acknowledging, that, in the North, there are many true friends whose every pulsation is in favor of the Union—who cling to it, as the Ark of our political safety; and who are battling with manly firmness against the insidious wiles and disturbing machinations of this ever-growing fanaticism.

The most ardent desire of the Author has been to create a stronger attachment and devotion to the Union, by showing that the *interests* of all the States are so inseparably interwoven, that a dissolution cannot take place without entailing mutual injury and ruin.

Hence, how powerful the *incentives*, for the patriots of the North and South, to rally under one common standard and preserve our National Government from the hands of those who, aiming to build up a great Sectional Party, will involve the nation in perpetual discord—if not, eventually, *in civil war*.

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ABOLITIONISM UNVEILED.

CHAPTER I.

'Squire Henry Gray—His Birth, Travels, and Settlement in Boone County, Ky.

ON the memorable day of the 20th January, in the year of our Lord, 1799, was ushered into existence the hero of our tale. So very particular was the family record kept, that not only the day and year were strictly noticed, but the very hour was to be preserved for the perusal and gratification of all future ages; hence, it seems, the very identical hour was at five o'clock in the morning, that the lungs of our hero were first inflated by this terrene atmosphere, and his eyes opened upon time. He was a lovely child, as all the old women present have testified, and came forth smiling upon this land of sin and woe. The snow, this eventful morning, in soft flakes descended quietly to the ground, while the north wind sang mournfully around the humble dwelling; these were the scenes outside of the chamber in which our Henry Gray was born, the day, year and hour named.

The habitation of the family stood on an elevated spot of ground, commanding an extensive view of the meanders of a turbulent little creek, familiarly known as Crooked Run. It was the dividing line between the counties of Culpepper and Madison, Virginia. The people of the Old Dominion have a dialect peculiar to themselves. *Runs* were the common names for creeks in that State, and this happening to be vastly crooked, was named, very appropriately, "*Crooked Run.*" In the western horizon the Blue Ridge