

Joseph Bonaparte Poem.

Joseph Bonaparte at Bethlehem in 1821

The following verses, written by Judge Franks, of the Dauphin County Bar, were contributed by Mr. Abraham S. Schropp, of Bethlehem, Pa., who found them among his father's papers.

Mr. Schropp's copy was endorsed as follows: "Impromptu written on the occasion of Joseph Bonaparte's visit to Bethlehem (in August, A. D. 1821), for the benefit of health, and his speedy cure by Dr. Daniel L. Green.

"These lines were written by Judge Franks, from Harrisburg, who was here at the same time, on a visit:"

King Joe, it is said, took it into his Head
To Bethlehem Hall to repair, Sir,
To Exhibit his Wealth and to better his
Health
Under Dr. Green's medical care, Sir.

A fortnight, at least, he had thought he
must feast,
On Bolusses, potions and Trout, Sir,
He arrived in the night, but next morn
'ere 'twas Light
He was cured of his gravel and gout, Sir.

Having heard of Green's Fame, when to
Bethlehem he came,
In an instant the Doctor was called, Sir;
Who, at Joseph's command, quickly took
him in hand,
Ere the Horses were rubb'd down and
stall'd, Sir.

Next morn at the dawn King Joe gave a
yawn,
And, expecting his aches, op'd his eyes,
Sir;
But noble Green's skill had cured every ill
And the monarch rose up in surprise, Sir.

For the Doctor he call'd; for the Doctor
he call'd;
To be knighted at once, on the spot, Sir.
The Doctor appeared, and the sword was
upreared,
On the son of Old Gallipot, Sir.

But the Doctor was wise, he cast down
his eyes,
And the Honour of Knighthood declined,
Sir;
Said, "A boon I will crave, with your
Majesty's leave,
And a grant of it hope I will find, Sir.

"In the course of my life, and, too, with-
out wife,
I ne'er a poor shilling could save, Sir.
Now a great Joe I have saved, Sir,
And the boon I have craved,
Is a little Joe, Sir, if you'r willing."

The King in amaze at the Doctor did
gaze,
And soon crossed his Hand with the gold,
Sir;
Then packed up his Purses, went off with
his Horses,
Leaving naught but the Tale to be told,
Sir.

Author: Frank, Judge.

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