[CONTINUED FROM FOURTH PAGE.]

of such fugitive from service or labor, or by seizing and arresting such fugitive, where the same can be done without process, and by taking, or causing such person to be taken, forthwith before such court, judge, or commissioner, whose duty it shall be to hear and determine the case of such claimant in a summary manner; and upon satisfactory proof being made, by deposition or affidavit, in writing, to be taken and certified by such court, judge, or commissioner, or by other satisfactory testimony, duly taken and certified by some court, magistrate, justice of the peace, or other legal officer authorized to administer an oath and take depositions under the laws of the State or Territory from which such person owing service or labor may have escaped, with a certificate of such magistracy or other authority, as aforesaid, with the seal of the proper court or officer thereto attached, which seal shall be sufficient to establish the competency of the proof, and with proof, also by affidavit, of the identity of the person whose service or labor is claimed to be due as aforesaid, that the person so arrested does in fact owe service or labor to the person or persons claiming him or her, in the State or Territory from which such fugitive may have escaped as aforesaid, and that said person escaped, to make out and deliver to such claimant, his or her agent or attorney, a certificate setting forth the substantial facts as to the service or labor due from such fugitive to the claimant, and of his or her escape from the State or Territory in which such service or labor was due, to the State or Territory in which he or she was arrested, with authority to such claimant, or his or her agent or attorney, to use such reasonable force and restraint as may be necessary, under the circumstances of the case, to take and remove such fugitive person back to the State or Territory whence he or she may have escaped as aforesaid. In no trial or hearing, under this fact, shall the testimony of such alleged fugitive be admitted in evidence; and the certificates in this and the first section mentioned, shall be conclusive of the right of the person or persons in whose favor granted, to remove such fugitive to the State or Territory from which he escaped, and shall prevent all molestation of such person or persons, by any process issued by any court, judge, magistrate, or other person, whomsoever.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That any person who shall knowingly and willingly obstruct, hinder, or prevent such claimant, his agent or attorney, or any person or persons lawfully assisting him, her, or them, from arresting such a fugitive from service or labor, either with or without process as aforesaid; or shall rescue or attempt to rescue such fugitive from service or labor, from the custody of such claimant, his or her agent or attorney, or other person or persons lawfully assisting as aforesaid, when so arrested, pursuant to the authority herein given and declared; or shall aid, abet, or assist such person so owing service or labor as aforesaid, directly or indirectly, to escape from such claimant, his agent or attorney, or other person or persons legally authorized as aforesaid; or shall harbor or conceal such fugitive, so as to prevent the discovery and arrest of such person, after notice or knowledge of the fact that such person was a fugitive from service or labor as aforesaid, shall, for either of said offences, be subject to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, and imprisonment not exceeding six months, by indictment and conviction before the district court of the United States for the district in which such offence may have been committed, or before the proper court of criminal jurisdiction, if committed within any one of the organized Territories of the United States; and shall moreover forfeit and pay, by way of civil damages to the party injured by such illegal conduct, the sum of one thousand dollars for each fugitive so lost as aforesaid, to be recovered by action of debt, in any of the district or territorial courts aforesaid, within whose jurisdiction the said offence may have been committed.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the marshals, their deputies, and the clerks of the said district and territorial courts, shall be paid for their services the like fees as may be allowed to them for similar services in other cases; and where such services are rendered exclusively in the arrest, custody, and delivery of the fugitive to the claimant, his or her agent or attorney, or where such supposed fugitive may be discharged out of custody for the want of sufficient proof as aforesaid, then such fees are to be paid in the whole by such claimant, his agent or attorney; and in all cases where the proceedings are before a commissioner, he shall be entitled to a fee of ten dollars in full for his services in each case, upon the delivery of the said certificate to the claimant, his or her agent or attorney; or a fee of five dollars in cases where the proof shall not, in the opinion of such commissioner, warrant such certificate and delivery, inclusive of all services incident to such arrest and examination, to be paid in either case, by the claimant, his or her agent or attorney. The person or persons authorized to execute the process to be issued by such commissioners for the arrest and detention of fugitives from service or labor as aforesaid, shall also be entitled to a fee of five dollars each for each person he or they may arrest and take before any such commissioner as aforesaid, at the instance and request of such claimant, with such other fees as may be deemed reasonable by such commissioner for such other additional services as may be necessarily performed by him or them; such as attending at the examination, keeping the fugitive in custody, and providing him with food and lodging during his detention, and until the final determination of such commissioner; and in general for performing such other duties as may be required by such claimant, his or her attorney or agent, or commissioner in the premises, such fees to be made up in conformity with the fees usually charged by the officers of the courts of justice within the proper district or county, as near as may be practicable, and paid by such claimants, their agents or attorneys, whether such supposed fugitives from service or labor be ordered to be delivered to such claimants by the final determination of such commissioner or not.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That upon affidavit made by the claimant of such fugitive, his agent or attorney, after such certificate has been issued, that he has reason to apprehend that such fugitive will be rescued by force from his or their possession before he can be taken beyond the limits of the State in which the arrest is made, it shall be the duty of the officer making the arrest to retain such fugitive in his custody, and to remove him to the State whence he fled, and there to deliver him to said claimant, his agent or attorney. And to this end, the officer aforesaid is hereby authorized and required to employ so many persons as he may deem necessary to overcome such force, and to retain them in his service so long as circumstances may require. The said officer and his assistants, while so employed, to receive the same compensation, and to be allowed the same expenses, as are now allowed by law for transportation of criminals, to be certified by the judge of the district within which the arrest is made, and paid out of the treasury of the United States.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That when any person held to service or labor in any State or Territory, or in the District of Columbia, shall escape therefrom, the party to whom such service or labor shall be due, his, her, or their agent or attorney, may apply to any court of record therein, or judge thereof in vacation, and make satisfactory proof to such court, or judge in vacation, of the escape aforesaid, and that the person escaping owed service or labor to such party. Whereupon the court shall cause a record to be made of the matters so proved, and also a general description of the person so escaping, with such convenient certainty as may be; and a transcript of such record, authenticated by the attestation of the clerk and of the seal of the said court, being produced in any other State, Territory, or district, in which the person so escaping may be found, and being exhibited to any judge, commissioner, or other officer authorized by the law of the United States to cause persons escaping from service or labor to be delivered up, shall be held and taken to be full and conclusive evidence of the fact of escape, and that the service or labor of the person escaping is due to the party in such record mentioned. And upon the production by the said party of other and further evidence if necessary, either oral or by affidavit, in addition to what is contained in the said record, of the identity of the person escaping, he or she shall be delivered up to the claimant. And the said court, commissioner, judge, or other person authorized by this act to grant certificates to claimants of fugitives, shall, upon the production of the record and other evidences aforesaid, grant to such claimant a certificate of his rights to take any such person identified and proved to be owing service or labor as aforesaid, which certificate shall authorize such claimant to seize or arrest and transport such person to the State or Territory from which he escaped: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed as requiring the production of a transcript of such record as evidence as aforesaid. But in its absence, the claim shall be heard and determined upon other satisfactory proofs, competent in law.

HOWELL COBB,
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*
WILLIAM R. KING,
*President of the Senate pro tempore.*

Approved September, 18, 1850.
MILLARD FILLMORE.

## GENERAL CASS RENOMINATED.

The late State Democratic Convention in Michigan re-nominated General Cass for the Presidency in 1852, for the following reasons:

"We believe that no other name can be presented for the next Presidency, which will meet with such a hearty response from the Democracy of the country, that we deem a re-nomination due to his signal public services and the principles of the party for which he has so long and so faithfully struggled."

The Democracy of Michigan must be in love with defeat.

# THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 3, 1850.

☞ As but two months intervene between the adjournment of the present session of Congress and the commencement of the next, we hope no subscriber will permit his subscription to expire during this brief period without renewing it at once.

☞ Congress having adjourned, we shall devote more attention to our Literary Miscellany, and to the discussion of some topics hitherto necessarily neglected. The news department of the paper will also be better cared for.

HON. THADDEUS STEVENS.—A friend writing from Fulton, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, says:

"We have a well-grounded prospect of sending Thaddeus Stevens to our next Congress. This shows that he has met our expectation."

Mr. Stevens doubtless will be reëlected. He is one of the few Representatives from Pennsylvania who have suffered no interest, no temptation, to impair their devotion to the cause of Freedom.

## ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.

Both Houses met last Monday, and adjourned *sine die*, at twelve o'clock, after a session of ten months.

## LARD OIL.

We call attention to the advertisement of Mr. Emery, lard oil manufacturer at Cincinnati. Of the value of his manufacture we can speak intelligently, having for some months past been using his *Lard Oil*. The cost of it, delivered here in Washington, is scarcely more than half that of Sperm Oil, while it burns with as clear and beautiful a light, free from smoke or any unpleasant smell. We prefer it to any other material for lamps for ordinary use.

Mr. Emery has had large experience in the manufacture, and has arrived as near perfection as may be.

## OUR CITY.

Washington has received a new impulse within the last twelve months. Indications of a vigorous prosperity everywhere meet the observer. New houses for residences, many of them beautiful edifices, are going up in all quarters. The population of the city is rapidly increasing, having nearly doubled since 1840. It is now over forty thousand. The number of slaves has greatly decreased, and the impression is that there are scarcely more than six hundred in the city. Property is rising in value, and capitalists are busy in making profitable investments.

Quite a liberal disposition was manifested by Congress, during the session just closed, to promote the welfare of the city. Provision was made for the enlargement of the Capitol, so as to afford better chambers to both branches of the National Legislature. An appropriation was also made for certain surveys, with a view to furnishing the city with an abundant supply of pure water—a most desirable object. And, it is hoped, that at the next session donations of lands may be made to aid in the establishment of a system of common school instruction, adequate to the wants of the city. Our excellent Mayor, we learn, will be prepared to submit to Congress a memorial on the subject, which, we doubt not, will be filled with valuable facts and suggestions.

The American People will not be displeased to see the capital city of their Republic fostered by the liberality of their Representatives congregating here from the shores of two oceans.

It is a beautiful city, with but a single blot on its character, and that is steadily disappearing. The slave trade has been abolished, and we look forward to the time, not far distant, when the soil of the District shall be consecrated entirely to Free Labor.

## THE PASSENGER IN THE BOOT.

Mr. Benton is apt to be very pithy in colloquial comment. Conversing with a senatorial friend, the other day, about the Compromise or Omnibus, in which he took so tender an interest, he remarked: Sir, there were four inside passengers in that Omnibus—there was California, sir; there was New Mexico; there was Texas; there was Utah, sir!—four inside passengers. There were two outside passengers, sir: There was the fugacious Slave Bill, and the District Slave-trade Abolition Bill. They could not be admitted inside, but they had outside seats, and the inside and outside passengers could be seen and known, sir. But there was another passenger, under the driver's seat, sir; carefully concealed in the boot, sir; breathing though chinks and holes like Henry Box Brown, sir—the Tariff, sir! But he had a worse fate than Box Brown—he was killed—killed in the House, sir—and I hope we shall have no more Omnibuses and no more passengers in the boot, sir!"

We do not vouch for the form of these sententious remarks, but we give the substance. That there was an agreement, written, signed and sealed, that the manufacturers of cotton, iron, and woollen, should be favored with increased protection, we do not undertake to say; but that the Representatives in Congress of these classes, had assurances from Southern friends of the Compromise measure, of alterations in the tariff favorable to their interests, there can be no doubt. The repeated defeat of the protectionists lately in the House of Representatives, shows the value of all such assurances. The "passenger in the boot" has been killed—killed stone dead.

## DISUNION MOVEMENTS.

The *Natchez Free Trader* states that a telegraphic despatch has been received in that city from Vicksburgh, announcing that Governor Quitman was in the act of writing a proclamation, convening the Legislature on the 20th October; and a memorial has been sent to Governor Collier of Alabama, signed by Ex-Governor Gayle and some fifty other persons, requesting him to convene the Legislature with a view to calling a convention "to redress Federal outrage and oppression."

There may be more importance in these disunion movements than we have imagined, but it seems to us that they are the work of a few disaffected malignants, who have certain ulterior objects to accomplish, which they do not now avow. We do not believe that they will be sustained in any real disunion project by the masses of the People.

A beautiful list of Federal grievances the revolutionary Conventions have to redress! For example—the admission of a free State into the Union—the concession to Texas of ninety thousand square miles, which she never possessed, and the payment of ten millions of dollars for territory to which she never had a title—the organization of Territorial Governments without any restriction as to slavery—the passage of a fugacious bill, as Mr. Benton calls it, converting the free States into hunting grounds for the slave catchers!

They will not venture upon secession—not they. But, they will labor to consolidate the Slave Power, for the purpose of future aggression; to overawe the spirit of Emancipation; to organize a Public Sentiment in the South that by operating on the fears of the two old party organizations, may control the next Presidential election; to effect the introduction of Slavery into the Territories of Utah and New Mexico; and to pave the way for the annexation of Cuba, as slave territory. They cannot be blind to the advantage secured to the slaveholding States by the overthrow of the Wilmot Proviso. Had that measure passed, the conversion of our Territories to the uses of Slavery, and the annexation of Cuba, would have been impossible. Now, both are possible. No positive prohibition stands in the way of their designs upon New Mexico and Utah, and the majority of the Representatives in this Congress from the free States stand pledged to the admission of future States, whether slaveholding or non-slaveholding—a pledge which cannot but embolden the designs of the Slave Power on Cuba. It is well understood, too, that the leading Democratic statesmen of the North are favorable to the acquisition of this island.

With such prospects of growth within the Union, and of regaining their ascendency, Messrs. Quitman, Towns, and their co-laborers, will not go out of it. The purposes of their agitation will soon be revealed.

It is folly to imagine that the Slavery Question will be settled by the measures of the present Congress. Were the Free Soil men to discontinue their efforts, the Southern Extensionists would not. They have not abandoned the idea of an "equilibrium," through which Slavery is to control the operations of the Government. They will not be satisfied with anything short of supreme influence. Anti-Slavery men cannot lay aside their arms—cannot quit the struggle. The whole question of Freedom in the Territories is still undecided; and they will be obliged yet to meet the issue of Cuban annexation. Who doubts that General Cass, if it be necessary to secure his renomination as Presidential candidate, will announce his approbation of the policy of extending the American empire not only over the continent, but the West Indian Archipelago?

The public mind of the North for the time is lulled. Wearied with the struggle, it is willing to rest, in the hope that Freedom may be the gainer from the settlement of the questions in controversy. But, the quiet is transient. It is not in the nature of things that a free and an intelligent People should be long indifferent to the conspiracy of mischievous agitators to enlarge the area of Human Bondage. The Conventions, now in contemplation in the South, will show the North that between the antagonistic elements of Freedom and Slavery, a hollow truce may be occasionally patched up by adroit politicians, but there can be no solid, permanent peace.

☞ The following review of the new volume of Poems by J. G. Whittier is from the pen of one able to do them justice.—*Ed. Era.*

## SONGS OF LABOR AND OTHER POEMS.*

Any talk about these poems seems most uncalled for in a journal in which so many of them have appeared, and whose readers so thoroughly understand and appreciate the peculiar powers and excellences of the author. But then, again, the columns to which these poems first gave a rare and attractive grace, should not be the last to hail and chronicle their appearance in a more enduring form—and, from those readers who know our author best, we are assured we may expect the readiest and heartiest response to our word of praise.

Before proceeding with our article, however, we will, if we may be indulged in so unprecedented a digression, give our readers a glimpse of our own present surroundings. We are on the sea shore—the rock-bound coast of our poet's own glorious State. It is the sunniest yet softest of summer mornings, when the glory of heaven seems descending to wed with the beauty of earth. Between us and the ocean stands a dark pine-grove, but beneath and between the long branches swayed by the fresh morning wind, we can see the gleam and dashing of the waves, and the sound they give forth as they beat against the rocks comes softened and rounded to our ear. What time and scene could be chosen so in harmony with our subject—the poetry of the volume before us!—now fresh and invigorating like the airs of morning, clear and cheering as the summer sunlight—now mournful and prophetic, like the [illegible] sea itself, rolling in upon us thought after thought of large volume and earnest power. In times of peace they come calm and continuous, with a steady, shoreward march, and with brightness on their crests—but when heaven is darkened by the exhalations of earth's wrongs and ills, when a stiff moral breeze is up and blowing, then they come dashing and surging, flinging their spray about, and making all tremble again with the great shock of their meeting.

The poetry of Whittier is eminently healthful and beneficent in its spirit. It exalts moral truth and sanctifies labor—it is the expression of a great humanity, and is ever in truest harmony with nature. More perhaps than any other poet, Whittier is remarkable for the obviousness of his meaning and the directness of his thought. He decorates little by gilding or garlanding, and conceals nothing in mists and shadows—he never loiters by the way, or suffers himself to be beguiled into pleasant and winding by-paths. He seldom seeks to address our highest, most *cultivated* comprehension—is not exclusively the companion of our exalted moods—his largest thought may be received by a child in knowledge—he is the poet of every-day. He speaks to the hearts of the people a language they never fail to understand—stirring or tranquillizing, sweet or grand, it is always simple. His thoughts do not come to us by slow and subtle ways—they flash upon us—we meet them face to face, and we say: "Ah, we have known you before!—in a dim, unformed state you have floated around us, and been the companions of our best hours, and, though you have taken form and new beauty since then, you are no strangers."

The democratic principles of our poet are most shown in the Songs of Labor—the philanthropic and religious in the poems which follow; but all are characterized by an ardent love of freedom, a deep reverence for humanity, and a great trust in God. Never were poet's gifts more heartily and unreservedly consecrated to the purposes of Heaven and the need of man. Wherever the poet may find himself—into whatever realms of imagination he may rise, into whatever depths of thought he may descend—he never loses himself in the mazes of vague conjecture, or passes beyond the atmosphere of prayer and praise, or sinks away from divine love and reliance; and the bonds of human fellowship are ever strong upon his spirit. It is his intense humanity which makes his enthusiasm so contagious and inspiring. We read with glowing lips and kindling eyes—our thoughts chime to his thoughts—our hearts seem to throb to the measure of his verse, and leap to the bold outbursts of his impassioned feeling. But, then, his poems of contemplation and sentiment have about them an indescribable sweetness—a sort of Sabbath-quiet, most captivating and subduing. They succeed his stern and stormy lyrics of freedom and reform, like the morning-song of birds after a night of tempest, or the evening harping of David after a day of battle.

But it is time we spoke of the volume before us more in detail.

The DEDICATION is one of the sweetest poems in the book; yet there is in it a sort of half-mournful *acceptance* of life which saddens us. While yet in the prime of manhood, with the strength and heat of summer in his heart, and its generous fruits around him, he places himself amid the shadows and scant foliage, and pale few flowers of latest autumn. Thus:

"Few leaves of Fancy's spring remain:
But what I have I give to thee,
The o'er sunned bloom of summer's plain,
And paler flowers the latter rain
Calls from the westering slope of life's autumnal lea.

"Above the fallen groves of green,
Where youth's enchanted forest stood,
The dry and wasting roots between,
A sober after growth is seen,
As springs the pine where falls the gay-leaf'd maple wood!"

Now this is very beautiful, but to reverse the old saying, there is in it "*less* truth than poetry."

It is a needless anticipation—a taking of time by the forelock with a most uncalled-for and irreverent haste. The poet may have commenced his descent from the sun-bright summit of life, but while he fancies himself quite under the hill, he is yet on the first slope, where the light is still golden, though more mellow than of old, the flowers warm with a richer than the early bloom, and where the abundant fruits of thought, labor, and experience, are just ripening to his hand. He has yet to gird on the arms of his greatest power—the wells of deepest wisdom and the fountains of refreshment are along his *future* way—a way that broadens, and lengthens, and does not grow barren, and "bleak," and "wintry," but loses itself in light and rest, not in shadow and tempest. The great and faithful soul is never left to know a bare and cold and desolate season, but his going hence, after a large and earnest life, is like a glad and triumphant harvest-home—when he goes from the fields whereon he has toiled in weariness or in hope, in sunshine and in rain, without lingering and without haste, and when like generous sheaves, golden and fully ripe, "his works do follow him."

Of the SONGS OF LABOR, we know not which to praise most; for, in speaking of them, anything less than praise is quite out of the question. Spirit and form—the original idea, the scope given to it and the voice in which it is heard, all gratify and satisfy us. Perhaps THE HUSKERS is the most ballad-like and picturesque, but about all the others there is the true lyric sound and swing—a force and vitality which fill one with as genuine an enthusiasm for honest labor as the lays of Scott ever inspired for feats of arms and knightly encounters. Yes, all honor to the poet who has thus not only assigned to "hardy toil" the attractive grace of his healthful sentiment, and the beauty of Heaven's consecration, through the patient labor of Jesus,

"A poor man toiling with the poor,"

but claimed for it an almost royal dignity—pride, and courage, and heroic endurance, which put to shame the pretensions and achievements of warriors.

We must indulge ourselves in extracting a few favorite stanzas from THE SONGS OF LABOR. These from the SHIP-BUILDERS strike us as especially spirited and beautiful:

"Ho! strike away the bars and blocks,
And set the good ship free!
Why lingers on these dusty rocks
The young bride of the sea!
Look! how she moves adown the grooves,
In graceful beauty now!
How lordly on the breast she loves
Sinks down her virgin prow!

"God bless her! wheresoe'er the breeze
Her snowy wing shall fan,
Aside the frozen Hebrides,
Or sultry Hindostan!
Where'er in mart or on the main,
With peaceful flag unfurl'd,
*She helps to wind the silken chain*
*Of commerce round the world!*"

The following verse from THE SHOEMAKERS contains a truth sufficiently well known to some women and all poets:

"The foot is yours; where'er it falls,
It treads your well-wrought leather,
On earthen floor, in marble halls,
On carpet or on heather.
*Still there the sweetest charm is found*
*Of matron grace or vestal's,*
As Hebe's foot bore nectar round
Among the old celestials!"

Here is a vivid home picture from THE DROVERS:

"When snow-flakes o'er the frozen earth,
Instead of birds, are flitting;
When children throng the glowing hearth,
And quiet wives are knitting;
While in the fire-light strong and clear
Young eyes of pleasure glisten,
To tales of all we see and hear,
The ears of home shall listen."

Here is a verse from THE FISHERMAN, which Campbell would have been proud to own:

"Where in mist the rock is hiding,
And the sharp reef lurks below;
Where the white squall smites in summer,
And the autumn tempests blow;
Where through gray and rolling vapor,
From evening until morn,
A thousand boats are hailing,
[illegible]

We have always considered Whittier the happiest of poets in Scriptural figures and allusions. Here is one from the same poem, which charmed us greatly:

"Our wet hands spread the carpet
And light the hearth of home;
From our fish, as in olden time,
The silver coin shall come."

In THE HUSKERS there are no verses that we can well detach. Its quaint and delicious pictures are seen best in a gallery by themselves. Yet we must break a stanza, to give one rare and pleasant passage:

"Till broad and red as when he rose, the sun sunk down at last,
*And like a merry guest's farewell, the day in brightness passed.*"

The verse following may be given entire:

"And lo! as through the western pines, on meadow, stream and pond,
Flamed the red radiance of a sky set all afire beyond,
Slowly o'er the Eastern sea-bluffs a milder glory shone,
*And the sunset and the moonrise were mingled into one!*"

THE LUMBERMEN, the last, is perhaps the finest poem of the series. The following verse, in the description of the mountain-land where toil the lumbermen of Maine, is one we greatly like:

"Where are mossy carpets better
Than the Persian weaves,
And than Eastern perfumes sweeter
Seem the fallen leaves;
And a music wild and solemn
From the pine-tree's height,
Rolls its vast and sea-like volume
On the wing of night."

But *this* is, after all, a greater verse, for in so few lines it impresses us with a moral truth and delights us with an exquisite fancy:

"Cheerly on the axe of labor,
Let the sunbeams dance,
*Better than the flash of sabre,*
*Or the gleam of lance!*
Strike! with every blow is given
Freer sun and sky,
*And the long-hid earth to Heaven*
*Looks with wondering eye!*"

Among the poems which follow, ON RECEIVING AN EAGLE'S QUILL FROM LAKE SUPERIOR, is certainly one of our chief favorites. It is a succession of grand pictures—a sort of panoramic poem. Next, we find MEMORIES—earlier written than the others we have mentioned, but unsurpassed by any in sweetness and quiet beauty.

THE LEGEND OF ST. MARK.—Ah, from no poem whatever, have we received so much of strength, and peace, and heavenly consolation! In the lone and weary night-time of the spirit, when thick darkness walls us round—in the hour of extremest agony, when the cry of the forsaken is breaking from our lips—in the strife with wrong, when the arm fails and the heart faints, because the oppressor is strong and the wrong-doer victorious for a season, what wondrous life and power, what renewals of the early faith, are in words like these:

"Unheard no burdened heart's appeal
Moans up to God's inclining ear;
Unheeded by his tender eye
Falls to the earth no sufferer's tear.

For still the Lord alone is God!
The pomp and power of tyrant man
Are scattered at his lightest breath,
Like chaff before the winnower's fan.

Not always shall the slave uplift
His heavy hands to Heaven in vain;
God's angel, like the good St. Mark,
*Comes shining down to break his chain.*

O, weary ones! ye may not see
Your helpers in their downward flight;
Nor hear the sound of silver wings
*Slow beating through the hush of night.*

But not the less gray Dothan shone
With sun-bright watchers, bending low,
That Fear's dim eye beheld alone
The spear-heads of the Syrian foe.

There are, who like the seer of old,
Can see the helper God has sent,
And how life's rugged mountain side
Is white with many an angel tent!

They hear the heralds whom our Lord
Send down his pathway to prepare;
And light from others hidden, shines
On their high place of faith and prayer."

THE WELL OF LOCH MAREE is a poem of like character—bringing strength and healing from the primal fountains of life to whosoever will drink.

The tribute to his noble sister is one of the few glimpses which the poet has given us of his home-relations and affections—and, perhaps, for that reason especially charming. But it is fine poetry, as well as gentle and touching sentiment.

AUTUMN THOUGHTS, from "Margaret Smith's Journal," is a quaint, mournful and most musical poem, which chimes on one's ears like distant vesper-bells.

ELLIOTT AND ICHABOD form a most striking contrast as they stand together in this volume. Both are elegiac poems, but that on Elliott is a terrific outburst of indignant grief, of fierce and fiery sorrow, which is more a defiance than a lament, and which peals out, and rings and rattles like a discharge of musketry over the grave of the Corn-Law Poet; while the ICHABOD is a low and solemn dirge, wailing for shrouded honor and perished faith, and the broken promise of a lost manhood. There are strange and awful notes in the requiem which tell you that the death was suicidal.

This wonderful poem, throughout the slow march of its subdued and solemn thought, teaches us the great truth, that genius, however lofty, unsurrounded and unsustained by a rich and beneficent life, is but a cold, and hard, and heaven-defying attribute—a tall pillar in a desert of sand, giving no shelter and casting little shade—a rallying point for tempests and a mark for the lightning.

A bold and strong poem is that entitled THE MEN OF OLD. Of like character is THE PEACE CONVENTION AT BRUSSELS. Then follows THE WISH OF TO DAY, which once read must hymn on in the heart and brain ever after. And yet it is the simplest of poems—gentle and serious, sorrowful, yet earnest—the yearning of a weary heart for the peace which the world cannot give, the pleading of a contrite spirit—the consecration of a life. There seem tears upon the page, and low sighs breathe along the lines. We hear only the meek voice of resignation, unquestioning and unconditional. We see no longer the man struggling and resolving, but the submissive child, yielding his will wholly and forever, and hiding his tearful face in the bosom of his Father.

EVENING IN BURMAH is a thoughtful and touching poem, suggested by a passage in one of the letters of Henry Martyn, the heroic young missionary. The opening stanza is truly grand:

"A night of wonder! piled afar
With ebon feet and crests of snow,
Like Himalaya's peaks, which bar
The sunset and the sunset's star
From half the shadowed vale below,
Volumed and vast the dense clouds lie,
And over them and down the sky,
*Paled in the moon, the lightning's eye.*"

SEED TIME AND HARVEST, brief and simple as it is, is one of those poems the writing of which is God's worship; for it embodies that spirit of "grateful service" and cheerful faith which is most acceptable to Him.

The last poem in the volume, some lines to a friend, ON RECEIVING A BASKET OF SEA-MOSSES, is one of great beauty and suggestive thought. It is musical, and light in form, graceful and fanciful, yet through this, as through the stronger and graver poems preceding, flows the reverent, religious soul of the poet—that soul which is never so shadowed by the mysteries of life, or so roughened by its tempests, that it may not reflect heaven, and bear its eternal truths, like stars upon its bosom.

And now, if our readers will indulge us in a few more brief comments, we will leave this volume to their own consideration. They will find it, for a collection of miscellanous poems, a singularly continuous and compact volume. Yet it is not genius violently projected in one only direction—there are various channels, but one ocean to his thoughts. Here are changes and varieties and phases of feeling, but a certain conscientious earnestness pervades and permeates the entire work. There is in it little of the poetry of fancy, none of passion, except it be moral passion, and in no instance is strength or purpose sacrificed to the mere love of the beautiful. Indeed, beauty seems rather to find expression incidentally, and unavoidably, than to be the aim and intenton of the poet. Mr Whittier has a hearty detestation of all cant and sentimentalism, and his poetry is refreshingly free from the mist and mysticism of the transcendental school, and the sublime guess-work of metaphysics. We are mistaken if he ever makes extensive explorations into the spiritual world; he is no seer of visions, or dreamer of dreams, and his prophecies are given more as interpretations of the will of Heaven, and clear expositions of the immutable laws of God, than as new and special revelations. Nor does he pass into and search through the human soul, with the lamp of his luminous thought, but rather stands before it, and calls on its powers and aspirations to come forth, "as one having authority." It may be that in his firm grasp on the real, our poet too often suffers to escape him, the etherial and fleeting forms of the ideal. In his verse the intellect is always felt, in strong, vigorous strokes—the heart beats through it—it has blood and bone and muscle, but the divine and wondrous mysteries of the spirit find in it more unfrequent and imperfect expression. It leads us into a garden, green and pleasant with the foliage and flowers and fruits of nature, and bright with a clear morning sunlight, rather than gives us torch-light glimpses of spiritual abysses, of caverns hung with strange gems, half in deepest night and half intolerable brightness. It is not poetry for the few—the learned and refined alone; nor are we called by it as by ancient song to recline on the mount of the gods, and partake their delicate and intoxicating food. On a holier mount, and following a diviner example, stands the Christian poet, the poet of the people, and breaks the bread of the poor, and feeds the famishing multitude.

* Songs of Labor and other Poems. By John G. Whittier. Boston: Ticknor, Reed, & Fields.

## HOW IS IT?

The *North Pennsylvanian*, the Anti-Wilmot paper at Towanda, Pa., says—

"The conferees who originally nominated Mr. Lowrey and Mr. Wilmot, having received the declinations of both those gentlemen, have unanimously agreed upon Mr. Grow of Susquehanna county; and he is now regularly and fairly before the Democrats of this district as their only candidate for Congressional honors."

Is this true? If so, Mr. Wilmot has acted, we doubt not, from the best of motives. But, we do not believe he would give place for a moment to a man, not sound in respect to the doctrine and policy which he has so ably and faithfully represented in Congress.

## CONVENTION IN GEORGIA.

The last Legislature of Georgia instructed Governor Towns, in the event of the admission of California into the Union, to issue his proclamation for a Convention of the People, to decide upon what measures they might then deem necessary. The Governor has performed his duty in a very solemn style, publishing a proclamation which occupies more than half a column of the *Southern Press*. The *Press* grows exalted in meditating upon its portentous tone, and calls upon the North with words of pregnant warning, to be admonished, and make restitution, prompt and ample, so as to stay the thunderbolt, already winged for its flight. "We advise the North," it cries, "to reflect calmly, to discard the schemes of party, the prejudice of a section, and the arrogance of a majority; and looking to its faith and to its duties, with a solemn recognition of the consequences of fatuity in such an exigency, to remove the aggression it has undertaken." The disciple of Penn closes his warning with a formal prayer that would do no discredit to a "hireling priest: "May the grace, the mercy, and the wisdom of the Most High God prevail in our councils!" The editor of the Washington *Union* is graceless and irreverent enough to style this "fustian," forgetting that in the early part of the session he passed through the same kind of devotional exercises. We see nothing very alarming in the proclamation. The People are called together to consult as to the best mode of action in the premises. The Governor is careful to caution them against extreme measures. He does not even hint at Disunion, so that we may expect the Convention to resolve, on the whole, in a spirit of magnanimous patriotism, to remain in the Union; an act, under the circumstances, of sublime condescension.

The Convention is to meet on the 10th of December next.

## THE FRIEND OF YOUTH.

The last number of the first volume of the *Friend of Youth* is just out. It contains a peculiarly interesting letter from its accomplished Paris Correspondent, and a capital story from the pen of Martha Russell. Besides these, the original and the editorial articles are as follows:

*Our Visit, The Austrian Butcher, Death of Louis Philippe, Arrival of Jenny Lind, Return of the Dove to the Ark.* ORIGINAL POETRY.—*The Beaver, To a Daughter, A Child's Reason why Bachelors have no Wives.* SELECTIONS.—*The Power of Mercy, The Loss of the First Born, Jenny Lind*, by Fredrika Bremer, and a variety of short articles.

The first number of the 2d volume will appear on the 1st of November. *The paper will not be continued to subscribers, unless they renew their subscriptions.* This should be done, and new subscriptions should be sent in during the present month, so that the editor should know how large an edition to issue. It is fifty cents a year, or five copies for two dollars.

Subscribers to the *Era*, who wish a family paper specially for their children, can hardly do better than to order the *Friend of Youth*. All communications concerning it, whether intended for publication or on business, should be addressed to the editor, Mrs. M. L. Bailey, Washington, D. C. Persons remitting moneys for the *Era* and the *Friend of Youth*, in one letter, are requested to insert the business items concerning the *Friend of Youth* on a separate slip of paper, or on a page by themselves.

## THE WHIG PARTY IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

From the course of a large number of the Representatives from the State of New York on the question of slavery, and from the tone of a few Whig journals in that State, the public has been advised of a serious division of sentiment among the Whigs of New York. Some were disposed to compromise; the majority adhered to the oft-expressed opinion of their State Conventions in favor of the policy of the Wilmot Proviso. Both sections claimed to be friends of the Administration, but the former section pretended to special sympathy with it, while the latter has been supposed to find its principal representative in William H. Seward.

The two parties came into collision at the late Whig State Convention, held at Syracuse on the 26th ult. Mr. Granger (anti-Seward) was chosen President, and Mr. Duer (anti-Seward) was chairman of the Committee on Resolutions. Before these were reported, a State ticket, representing chiefly the Seward views, was put in nomination, as follows:

*For Governor*, Washington Hunt.
*For Lieutenant-Governor*, George J. Cornell.
*For Canal Commissioner*, Ebenezer Blakely.

Mr. Duer then reported a series of resolutions. The following touch the points of difference between the two sections:

"5. *Resolved*, That the Whigs of New York deeply lament the dispensation that removed from the sphere of his great usefulness, our late lamented Chief Magistrate, whose purity of purpose, lofty patriotism, devoted and self sacrificing services, and stern uncompromising resolution in the path of duty, had justly endeared him to his countrymen.

"6. *Resolved*, That the Whigs of this State, have tried, in various capacities, the ability, the wisdom, the patriotism, and the devotion to the best interests of the country, of Millard Fillmore, President of the United States, and that from the experience of the past, and their knowledge of his private and public virtues, they repose the utmost confidence in his administration of the Government, and his maintenance of the well-known principles of the Whig creed.

"7. *Resolved*, That while the Whig party of New York remain unalterably opposed to the extension of slavery over territory now free, and have no doubt of the constitutional power of Congress to prohibit such extension, a liberal spirit of toleration should be exercised in regard to conflicting opinions touching measures which have been adopted by Congress for the adjustment of the questions arising from our late territorial acquisitions; that we rejoice in the admission of California as a free State, and are prepared to acquiesce in the recent action of Congress for the settlement of the boundary line between New Mexico and Texas, and a creation of Territorial Governments for New Mexico and Utah, in the confident belief that these acts of conciliation will result in the exclusion of slavery from the territory ceded by Mexico to the United States, and at the same time tend to restore those cordial sentiments and fraternal ties which ought ever to be cherished between the different sections of our common country.

"8. *Resolved*, That the Whigs of New York have confidence in the honest purpose and patriotic motives which animated the WHIG SENATOR and Representatives from this State in the Federal Legislature, upon the embarrassing questions which have been agitated during the present Congress; that we recognise in their course and conduct an earnest desire to seek the permanence and advancement of the best interests of the Union; and although, in the conscientious discharge of their duty, they have felt constrained to adopt differing and antagonistic views, we admire the honesty and approve the candor and the tolerance with which, upon exciting questions, they have nevertheless differed like brethren."

These resolutions, it will be observed, praise the patriotism, but not the sound judgment, of General Taylor's administration, while they commend the wisdom as well as patriotism of Mr. Fillmore's. They do not re-affirm the creed of the Whigs of New York on the Slavery Question, as heretofore expressed by their State conventions, and through their Legislative resolves, but they do affirm acquiescence in the antagonistic policy adopted by Congress in relation to that question, and equally commend the honesty of purpose and the fidelity of the Whig Senator and all the Whig Representatives from New York, although some of them obeyed, while the rest violated the instructions of their Legislature.

The majority would not assent to these accommodating resolutions, and insisted upon adherence to the creed of the party. Accordingly, substitute resolutions were submitted by Mr. Cornwell. Both sets were referred to the Committee, which was enlarged to the number of sixteen. The Committee reported back the resolutions, not having been able to agree, as they were equally divided in opinion. The substitute resolutions were as follows:

"*Resolved*, That this Convention, respecting those who have sustained Whig principles with equal ardor in prosperity and adversity, rejoice in the opportunity now offered for making expressions of renewed confidence in the present National Administration, and in the wisdom and efficiency with which it has been administered under circumstances of unusual embarrassment and difficulty.

"*Resolved*, That while we lament most deeply the irreparable loss of our Chief Magistrate, General Zachary Taylor, at a crisis in our country's history which his clear judgment and Roman firmness seemed so peculiarly designed to meet, we deem it most fortunate for the nation that his place is filled by a successor so distinguished and capable as Millard Fillmore, in whose experience, fidelity, and enlightened statesmanship, the people of New York have learned to repose entire confidence.

"*Resolved*, That our thanks are especially due to the Hon. William H. Seward, for the signal ability and fidelity with which he has sustained, in the United States Senate, those beloved principles of public policy so long cherished by the Whigs of the Empire State, expressed in State and County Conventions, as well as in the votes and instructions of our State Legislature—those principles are eminently national and republican, because they are just and equitable.

"*Resolved*, That the admission of California into the Union as a State, and with a free Constitution, meets with our hearty approbation, and as a Territorial Government is established for New Mexico and Utah, without any prohibitory clause, on the assumption that slavery is excluded by other causes, it is the solemn duty of Congress to extend the Jeffersonian Ordinance over those Territories on the first indication that slavery or involuntary servitude is likely to be introduced into the Territories.

"*Resolved*, That the Whigs of New York have confidence in the honest purposes and particular motives which animated the Whig Representatives from this State in the Federal Legislature, while embarrassing measures have been agitated in the present Congress."

These resolutions are not restricted to praise of General Taylor's motives; they extol his clear judgment and Roman firmness, as being admirably adapted to meet the crisis in which he was placed, and pronounce his loss irreparable. But they also express entire confidence in the present Administration. Nor do they bestow equal commendation on the motives of W. H. Seward, and the Representatives who differed from him, abstaining from the expression of opinion as to their respective policies. On the contrary, they signalize him as being preëminently representative of Whig principles in New York, and reaffirm the devotion of the Whigs of that State to the Jeffersonian policy of Slavery Restriction by positive law. The adoption of the resolutions would be a virtual disapproval of the action of Congress on the Slavery Question, of the policy of Mr. Webster, of the course of Messrs. Duer, Brooks, Briggs, and those Whigs who voted with them. Hence they were stubbornly opposed, but the vote being taken, the substitute resolutions were adopted—yeas 74, nays 42. The question was then put on the resolutions as amended, and the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th, were adopted by acclamation.

Mr. Duer and his friends, some forty of the delegates, immediately left the Convention, and the President, Mr. Granger, resigned his seat, stating that doctrines had been advanced as Whig doctrines, which he, and those who thought like him, could not recognise as such. It therefore seemed consistent to resign the chair into other hands. This he did with the best feelings to all.

One of the Vice Presidents took the chair, and the following State Committee was appointed:

John L. Schoolcraft, Franklin Townsend, Sam. Stevens, Benjamin R. Spellman, David Graham, Charles McDonald, James T. M. Bleakley, H. Z. Hayner, Le Grand Cannon, Frederick Hollister, and Allen Monroe.

The bolters organized a separate Convention, under the leadership of Messrs. Granger and Duer; an address was prepared by the latter; and it was resolved to call a Convention, to meet at Utica, Thursday, October 17th.

We have no room for remark on these important events.

## THE SLAVERY OF THE WHITE RACE IN THE SOUTH.

The Slavery of the white race in many parts of the South is as ignominious, if not as cruel, as that of the blacks. The following is from the *Southern Press*, which seems to sympathize with Lynch Law as the proper remedy for Freedom of opinions:

"We find the following account of a 'summary process' case, in the Columbus *Times*. The climate of Georgia is getting uncomfortably warm for Southern men with Northern feelings.—*Southern Press.*

"NOTICE TO QUIT.—'At a large public meeting at Eufaula, Ala., last week, one Captain Elisha Betts, of that place, was ordered to leave on short notice—he having been discovered as the author of an aboliton communication from that city to the Washington *Era*, abolition paper.

"We have no doubt, from the character of the meeting and from the temper of the sound Southern city of Eufaula, that this time the public decree will be executed. It is a just decree. Our rights may be *compromised* away in a Free Soil Congress, but it is no time to *compromise* with Abolitionists in our midst.'"

Mr. Betts is an old man, born and raised in the South, in which he has always resided. For the grievous sin of believing that Slavery is an evil, he is "ordered to leave"—that is, exiled from his home and country by a mean, dastardly mob. The "abolition communication" referred to in the foregoing extract is the following, published in the *Era* of August 29th—certainly a very inoffensive article, as everybody, not a monomaniac on the subject of slavery, will admit:

"NEAR EUFAULA, BARBOUR CO., ALABAMA,
*July* 17, 1850.

DEAR SIR: I have recived the *National Era* of the 14th instant, and after carefully examining its contents, like it well, and therefore enclose to you two dollars, agreeable to its terms of subscription for one year. Having been born and raised (being now in the 62d year of my age) amidst slavery, I certainly have had a fair opportunity to judge of the effect of the systom on society in this country. There is no doubt but it has a tendency to vitiate and demoralize those who own them, and to degrade those who do not. I am well pleased with the Hon. Charles Durkee's speech on the California question; and what he said respecting slavery was well said. But he did not attempt to portray the evils this unjust institution produces on and among the free white population of the slaveholding States, nor do I suppose he could do it for the want of information. If some of the Southern members in Congress were disposed to do it, they could tell all about it; but if they were to do it they would immediately be denounced as traitors to their country by a large majority of the slaveholders—not all. I thank God that I have yet reason to hope that there are some owners of slaves whose sensibilities are not so blunted and benumbed by what we are told are our highest interests, as to admire the institution of slavery; nevertheless we submit to the laws and customs of the land we live in, not knowing how to rid ourselves of the evil. But the introduction of slavery into the newly acquired Territories is quite another question. It seems to me that the people who inhabit these Territories are altogether right in endeavoring to exclude the evil, and that every Christian, yea, every good man, yes, every one who believes in equality and justice, ought to sanction and encourage these praiseworthy efforts."

Doubly accursed is a system which thus chains two races—enslaving the souls of the whites, and the souls and bodies of the blacks.

The editors of the *Southern Press* are fond of descanting upon the baleful workings of the free institutions of the North. Has any postmaster at the North refused to deliver their paper to subscribers, on the ground that it is an incendiary or disunion sheet, or that it advocates doctrines which, if carried out, would authorize the enslavement of the whole laboring community in the free States? Has any Lynch Law been put in operation against the tribe of Northern miscreants who advocate slavery on Bible grounds, and as the best condition for the black race? There are political hacks at the North who are abolitionists in the most infamous sense of the word—advocating the abolition of Freedom in one-half of the Territories of the Union. No mob ever pretends to send them the insolent message "to leave." Hateful as are their sentiments, a Free Labor Population understands too well the Freedom of Opinion and Speech, to call in question their right to hold and to promulgate just such views as they please. The capitalists and property-holders of the North have their rights denied every day by a large class of men who are seeking to change radically the social fabric, but they are not fools enough to attempt to curb and put down such agitators by the application of brute force. That is the infernal policy of Slavery—not of African Slavery alone, but of every species of Despotism that enthrals and curses the masses of mankind.

## THE WASHINGTON UNION.

The rumor for some time past has been current that the Washington *Union* was about to change hands. We suppose negotiations with a view to that end have been on foot, but it would seem from the following paragraph from that paper of Tuesday last, that they have failed:

"The rumors in circulation about the sale of the *Union* are not confirmed by the facts. More upon this point to-morrow. The negotiation has terminated, and the present editor remains at his post, prepared, with his gallant associate, (Mr. Overton,) to do battle against his own enemies or those of his country. We shall address our subscribers to-morrow. If they will stand by us with the same zeal with which we shall stand by our country, our own little *Union* is safe."

We have always strongly condemned the course of the *Union* on the Slavery Question, but the editor hates disunion, and we like him for that. Besides, it is really pleasant to see a man of his years (three score and ten) so fresh in his