

# The Independent Press.

DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, THE ARTS, SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE, NEWS, POLITICS, &c., &c.

TERMS—TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM.)

"Let it be instilled into the hearts of your children that the Liberty of the Press is the Palladium of all your Rights."—Junius.

(PAYABLE IN ADVANCE)

BY W. A. LEE AND HUGH WILSON.

ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26, 1859.

VOLUME VII.—NO. 17

## POETRY.

### PHANTOMS.

BY HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

All houses wherein men have lived and died  
Are haunted houses. Through the open doors  
The harmless phantoms on their errands glide,  
With feet that make no sound upon the floor.

We meet them at the doorway, on the stair,  
Along the passages they come and go,  
Impaling impressions on the air,  
A cease of something moving to and fro.

There are more guests at table than the hosts,  
Invited; the illuminated hall  
Is thronged with quiet, inoffensive ghosts,  
As silent as the pictures on the wall.

The stranger at my fireside cannot see  
The forms I see, nor hear the sounds I hear;  
He but perceives what is; while unto me  
All that has been is visible and clear.

We have no title-deeds to house or lands;  
Owners and occupants of earlier dates  
From graves forgotten stretch their dusty hands,  
And hold in mortmain still their old estates.

The spirit world around this world of sense  
Floats like an atmosphere, and everywhere  
Waits through these earthly mists and vapors dense  
A vital breath of more ethereal air.

Our little lives are kept in equipoise  
By opposite attractions and desires:  
The struggle of life's instinct that enjoys,  
And the more noble instinct that aspires.

The perturbations, the perpetual jar  
Of earthly wants and aspirations high,  
Come from the influence of that unseen star,  
That undiscovered planet in our sky.

And as the moon from some dark gate of cloud,  
Throws o'er the sea a floating bridge of light,  
Across whose trembling planks our fancies crowd,  
Into the realm of mystery and night;

So from the world of spirit there descends  
A bridge of light, connecting it with this,  
O'er whose unsteady floor, that aways and bends,  
Wander our thoughts above the dark abyss.

LESSONS OF THE WAR.—The London Illustrated News thus sums up what the recent war has taught. It tells the whole story:

"That the rulers of mankind have no faith in the intelligence, justice or honesty of one another; that they have no regard for either the happiness or prosperity of their subjects; that they look upon those over whom they are placed as mere machines, without the faculty of independent action, as instruments of force to be used for the accomplishment of objects which they cannot comprehend, and in which they have no interest. It teaches us that the despotic monarchs of the world imagine that mankind were made for them, and not they for mankind; that their ambition and revenge and abominable selfishness, are the only impulses to be felt, and the only rules to be obeyed by the millions subjected to their sway. It teaches us that they despise the intellectual power of the mass of humanity, and look upon their fellow men as of value only as they assume the nature of so many Janglers whose ferocity is intensified by a higher kind of instinct and rendered more destructive by the appliances of science. Hence, though the despots know that their protocols and bulletins are all false deliberate misrepresentations of facts, and coolly contrived falsehoods, intended to deceive the crowd, such is their confidence in the stupidity and folly of mankind that they do not hesitate to launch their fraudulent delusions before the world—nay, they even expect them to be admired and believed in. As they regard no man, neither do they fear God. They play upon the religious instinct of man as they do upon his passions and weaknesses.

LOVER.—A man who, in his anxiety to obtain possession of another has lost possession of himself. Lovers are seldom tired of one another's society, because they are always speaking of themselves. Let us not, however, disparage this fond infatuation, for all its tendencies are elevating. He who has passed through life without ever being in love, has had no spring-time—no summer in his existence; his heart is a flowering plant which hath never blossomed—never developed itself—never put forth its beauty and its perfume—never given nor received pleasure. The love of our youth, like kennel coal, is so inflammable that it may be kindled by almost any match; but if its transient blaze do not pass away in smoke its flame, too bright and ardent to last long soon exhausts and consumes itself. The love of our mature age is like coke, which once ignited, burns with a steady and enduring heat, emitting neither smoke nor flame. No wonder that we hear so much of the sorrows of love, for there is a pleasure even in dwelling upon its pains. Revelling in tears, its fire, like that of naphtha likes to swim upon water.

A ZINE THOUGHT.—A French writer has said that "to dream gloriously, you must act gloriously while you are awake; and to bring angels down to converse with you in your sleep, you must labor in the cause of virtue during the day."

## EVERETT ON THE CHARACTER AND ELUCIDATION OF CHOATE.

Like everything that comes from that inexhaustible storehouse of truth and beautiful thought—the mind of Edward Everett—his eulogy on Mr. Choate, at the Public Meeting in Boston is one of those productions which are drunk in by the mind and heart which an avidity that never tires. We make the following extract, and need not commend it to the attention of our readers:

If ever there was a truly disinterested patriot Rufus Choate was that man. In his political career there was no shade of selfishness. Had he been willing to purchase advancement at the price often paid for it, there was never a moment, from the time he first made himself felt and known, that he could not have commanded anything which any party could bestow. But he desired none of the rewards or honors of success.

On the contrary, he not only for his individual self, regarded office as a burden—an obstacle in the way of the cultivation of his professional and literary taste—but he held that of necessity, and parties to assume a sectional character, conservative opinions seeking to moderate between the extremes which agitate the country must of necessity be in the minority; that it was the mission of men who hold such opinions, not to fill honorable and lucrative posts which are unavoidably monopolized by active leaders but to seek prudent words on great occasions, which would command the respect if they do not enlist the sympathies of both the conflicting parties and insensibly influence the public mind. He comprehended and accepted the position; he knew that it was one liable to be misunderstood, and sure to be misrepresented at the time; but not less sure to be justified when the interests and passion of the day are buried beneath the clouds of the valley.

But this ostracism, to which his conservative opinions condemned him, produced not a shade of bitterness in his feelings. His patriotism was as cheerful as it was intense. He regarded our confederate Republic with his wonderful adjustment of State and Federal organization;—the State bearing the burden and descending to the details of local administration, the General Government moulding the whole into one general nationality, and representing in the family of nations,—as the most wonderful phenomenon in the political history of the world.

Too much of a statesman to join the unreflecting disparagement with which other great forms of national polity are often spoken of in this country, he yet considered the oldest, wisest and the most successful of them, the British Constitution, as a far less wonderful political system than our confederate Republic. The territorial extent of the country; the beautiful play into each other of its great commercial, agricultural, and manufacturing interest; the material prosperity, the advancement in arts, and letters, and manners already made, the capacity for further indefinite progress in this vast theatre of action, in which Providence has placed the Anglo-American race—stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Arctic circle to the tropics were themes on which he dwelt as none but he could dwell; and he believed that with patience, with mutual forbearance, with a willingness to think that our brethren, however widely we may differ from them may be honest and patriotic as ourselves our common country would eventually reach a height of prosperity of which the world as yet has seen no example.

With such gifts such attainments and such a spirit, he placed himself, as a matter of course, not merely at the head of the jurists and advocates, but of the public speakers of the country. After listening to him at the bar, in the Senate, or upon the academic or popular platform, you felt that you had heard the best that could be said in either place. That mastery which he displayed at the forum and in the deliberative assembly was not less conspicuous in every other form of public address.

As happens in most cases of eminent jurists and statesmen, possessing a brilliant imagination and able to adorn a severe course of reasoning with the charms of a glowing fancy or a sparkling style, it was sometimes said of him, as it was said before him of Erskine, of Ames and Pinckney that he was more a rhetorician, than a logician, that he dealt in words and figures of speech more than in facts or arguments. These are the invidious comments, by which dull or prejudiced men seek to disparage those gifts which are furthered from their own reach.

It is perhaps by his discourses on academic and popular occasions that he is most extensively known in the community, as it is these which were listened to with delighted admiration by the largest audience. He loved, to treat a philosophical theme, and he knew how to throw a magic fire—like a cool morning dew on a cluster of purple grapes—over the most familiar topics at a patriotic celebration. Some of his occasional performances will ever be held among the brightest gems of our literature.

The eulogy on Daniel Webster at Dartmouth College, in which he mingled at once all the light of his genius and all the warmth of his heart, has within my knowledge, never been equalled among the performances of its class in this country for sympathetic appreciation of a great man discriminating analysis of character, fertility of illustration, weight of sentiment, and a style at once chaste, nervous and brilliant. The long sentences which have been criticised in this, as in other performances, are like those which Dr. Channing admired and commended in Milton's prose, well compacted, full of meaning, fit vehicles for great thoughts.

But he does not deal exclusively in those ponderous sentences. There is nothing of the artificial Johnsonian balance in his style. It is as often marked by a pregnant brevity as by a sonorous amplitude. He is sometimes satisfied in concise epigrammatic clauses, to skirmish with his light troops and drive in the enemy's outposts. It is only on fitting occasions, when great principles are to be vindicated and solemn truths told—when some moral or political Waterloo or Solferino is to be fought—that he puts on the entire panoply of his gorgeous rhetoric.

It is then that his majestic sentences swell to the dimensions of his thought; that you hear afar off the awful roar of his rifled ordnance; and when he has stormed the heights, and broken the centre and trampled the squares, and turned the staggering wings of his adversary, that he sounds his imperial clarion along the whole line of battle, and moves forward with all his hosts in one overwhelming charge.

At this beautiful figure, forcibly and eloquently expressed as it was, the audience could no longer restrain the expression of their approbation, and burst forth into continued applause, which ceased, and was renewed the second time.

NEW ARRANGEMENT OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The ground plan of the Hall of the House of Representatives, under the order of the last session removing the desks, is now complete, although the sofas which are to take the place of the huge and gorgeous chairs are not placed. The rows of seats rise above each other on the same elevations as before, but the space is circumscribed nearly one-half, and the members will be seated much more comfortably and conveniently for the transaction of business. The vacant space to the right and left of the Speaker's chair, occasioned by the new arrangement, will be occupied with large writing tables and all the necessary appliances. No special provision of that sort was made in the resolution directing the change, but it was assumed to be embraced within the general idea. The alterations necessary to carry out the experiment are of such a character as to insure a trial for the whole of the next session at least, because it would hardly be practicable to revert to the old system during the period of an ordinary adjournment over three days.

COURAGE OF AN ENGLISH OFFICER.—During the last rebellion in India, instances of heroism were common; of cowardice there was but one. Indeed, I deeply regret to have to record the fact that there was one officer of high rank, and in the prime of life, who never showed himself outside the walls of the barracks, nor took even the slightest part in the military operations. This craven-hearted man, whose name I withhold out of consideration for the feelings of his surviving relatives, seemed not to possess a thought beyond that of preserving his own worthless life. Throughout three weeks of skulking, while women and children were daily dying around him, and the little band of combatants was being constantly thinned by wounds and death, not even the perils of his own wife could rouse this man to exertion; and when at length we embarked at the close of the siege, while our little craft was stuck upon a sandbank, no exhortation could make him quit the shelter of her bulwarks though we were adopting every possible expedient to lighten her burden. It was positively a relief to us when we found that his cowardice was unavailing; and a bullet through the boat's side that despatched him caused the only death that we regarded with complacency.—*The Story of Cavan voss.*

EXPERIENCE.—There is a pretty German story of a blind man, who, even under a misfortune, was happy—happy in a wife he passionately loved; her voice was sweet and low, and he gave her credit for that beauty which had been painted for the object of his idolatry. A physician came and curing the disease, restored the husband to sight, which he chiefly valued as it would enable him to gaze on the lovely features of his wife. He looks, and sees a face hideous in ugliness. He is restored to sight, and his happiness is over. Is not this our history! Our cruel physician is Experience.

## From the South Carolinian.

MR. EDITOR—DEAR SIR: You will oblige me by publishing the accompanying paper, prepared with some pains by its author for the purpose of rectifying a portion of Col. Benton's book, where in his narrative deals unjustly and falsely, with the history of certain prominent events and men connected with the tariff and the Texas annexation controversy of 1844. This correction and refutation was intended to have been made at an earlier date, but in part owing to Col. Benton's death, in the spring of 1858, it has been until the present time delayed. The reason Mr. Pickens assumes the task to vindicate the name and fame of South Carolina and Mr. Calhoun from the aspersions of Col. Benton's book, he himself full discloses in the narrative. Being the original and now sole depository of the facts upon which Col. Benton grounds his assertions, the duty appeared imperative that he should suffer no further time to elapse before he made public a true statement of every thing that transpired between Mr. Polk and himself during the visit alluded to in the "Thirty Years in the United States Senate." As it may naturally assist in developing the political history of our times, likely from the "thirty years" to be perverted and distorted, its publication at this time may be of some general importance, and may also be of some service to the State and to the reputation of Mr. Calhoun. Truly yours,

### MR. BENTON'S BOOK—SOUTH CAROLINA—MR. CALHOUN—MR. POLK.

He who writes history, often makes history, and perhaps his notions are innocent, because he only writes from his standpoint, and sees things as represented to him in a totally different light by one set of men from what another set, viewing the other side, might represent them. This is eminently true of all those who attempt to give a history of their own times, particularly if they were active partisans in the political conflicts of the day. Mr. Benton has recently published elaborate books, purporting to be a full account of his thirty years in the Senate of the United States. He has there attempted to give the detailed history of great events, in which he might well exclaim, "Magna pars fui."

Soon after I became of age, I was sent to the Legislature; and from 1832, became deeply enlisted in all the great questions of the day from that time until the present. This circumstance led me to keep an accurate memorandum, particularly of everything that related to South Carolina. I see many points in his books where he has done the grossest injustice to the State and to Mr. Calhoun, as identified with South Carolina. For instance, the minute exposition which he makes of Mr. Calhoun's course as Secretary of War, in Mr. Munro's Cabinet, in relation to General Jackson, the taking of the Baracoa and imprisoning the Spanish Governor in Pensacola, the "Jenny Rhea letter," &c., &c.; all appear to be quite plain and truthful to any one not acquainted minutely with the detailed history of these events, and yet there never was a more perfect tissue of misconception and partisan views published in any book having the slightest pretension to history.

The paper published, as purporting to be left by General Jackson with Mr. Blair as his last authentic record of the controversy with Mr. Calhoun, and his defence before the Committee of the Senate, raised on the "Seminole war," contains the severest accusations against the integrity of Mr. Calhoun, and presented to the world under the cover of the illustrious name of Jackson, is well calculated to produce a profound impression upon the rising generation; and yet the contradictions of the paper itself, he totally different style in which the first part of it is written from the latter part, and the appeal which General Jackson says "Hon. John Rhea" make to him under the instigation of Mr. Munro, as all were "brother Masons," to burn the famous "Johnny Rhea" letter—a document so essential to the vindication of his own honor as to the true history of an important event in the country and its administration, all show that if Gen. Jackson were alive and in proper mind, he never could have permitted such a document to go forth as his deliberate production. Mr. Munro was a Mason, General Jackson was a Mason, and so, too, was the famous Hon. John Rhea, member of Congress from Tennessee. Mr. Calhoun was no Mason, and yet this "exposition" represents Mr. Calhoun as instigating Mr. Munro to appeal to General Jackson, through "John Rhea," to burn this famous secret letter, which represents Mr. Munro as prompting General Jackson, commander of the army, to invade Florida and take possession of Pensacola, when he, Mr. Munro, as President, had assumed a totally different position; and he is appealed to as a "brother Mason" to suppress the letter, and all done under the instigation of Mr. Calhoun, who was no Mason! This is doing great injustice to the noble band of brothers, who have stood the test of ages, and tested the verities of their faith to the party and destruction of their country.

poses. This transaction represents leading members of the brotherhood, combining together to suppress an important secret document essential to vindicate honor and the truth of history, and acting under the instigation of political intrigue.

Surely there must be some grievous error here, and what purports to be General Jackson's "exposition," never could have received the deliberate sanction of that renowned man when in the full vigor of his great intellect. Besides, the letter was a "secret" letter, and implicated Mr. Munro; and Mr. Rhea was used as a "Mason" to appeal to his brother Mason, General Jackson, to suppress it, and he says he did burn it about six years after it was written, that it might not be used; and General Jackson is made to say he never showed it to any man except Col. McNary, of Nashville. Then, after all this solemnity, and after Mr. Munro and Mr. Rhea are both dead, and about thirty years after the date of the letter, General Jackson himself is set forth as revealing the substance and contents of this very letter from memory, so that if there ever was any harm in it, it is now made to do a double wrong, and to inflict a far greater injury upon the character of Mr. Munro than in any aspect it ever could do to Mr. Calhoun.

But it is not my purpose to examine that part of Mr. Benton's book, or any part of it, except where, in some prominent events, he uses me as a witness or evidence upon which to make grave charges against Mr. Calhoun and South Carolina. I will not examine his account of the meeting and organization of the twenty-sixth Congress, however unjust that account may be, but merely a few prominent points he makes elsewhere, and particularly where I am the only living witness now who can set things forth in their proper light: Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Polk are both dead, and Mr. Benton has used my name to make grave charges against both these distinguished men. I know the public can never feel much interest in anything said or done by so humble a citizen as myself; but as everything connected with the integrity and reputation of these two illustrious statesmen will be deeply interesting in history, and particularly as Mr. Calhoun's life is bound up in the character and history of South Carolina, I trust, under these circumstances, the public will consider it no intrusion upon my part to place my evidence before them. I do so entirely from a sense of duty.

Mr. Benton's great labor and enlarged reputation will make his book more studied by the young men of intellect in the United States than any other political book of the day. In fact, it is the only book that pretends to be a political history of the last forty years of our Government.

In vol. 2d, and at page 650, I find an account of a visit I made to Mr. Polk, August, 1844. He says: "He (that is I) made known the condition upon which the vote of South Carolina for him (Mr. Polk) might be dependent. That condition was to discontinue Mr. Blair as the organ of the Administration, if he should be elected. Mr. Polk was certain of the vote of the State if he agreed to the required condition; and he did so. Mr. Blair was agreed to be given up, &c. That was proposition to Mr. Calhoun, to whom Mr. Blair was obnoxious on account of his honorable opposition to nullification and its author."

I will not follow him in his comments and the account he gives of Mr. Ritchie, and the means used to purchase out Messrs. Blair and Rives. He mentions no other understanding or condition, and seems to think of no other object in view" in going to see Mr. Polk at that period, then a miserable and petty intrigue to turn out Mr. Blair and then makes extensive developments which followed, all turning upon that affair. There never was a more exaggerated or egregious mistake. The book will be looked upon, in after time, as history. I feel it a duty to state fully the far more important objects I was charged with in that visit, than the one he has developed with so much solemn emphasis.

The great Democratic Convention was to meet in Nashville, August, 1844, when delegates from all the States West and South were appointed. I had been authentically informed that this convention was to be held in Washington, in consultation with Mr. Calhoun and Mr. McDuffie, and under their express sanction. Mr. McDuffie was to go to it as a representative from South Carolina. There had been some excitement and division made in that State by what was called the "Blairton Meeting" and those connected with it were understood to be in favor of urging the State to a separate and independent movement against the tariff at that time. Not long before the day for the meeting of the Nashville Convention, I received a letter from Mr. Calhoun, who was then Secretary of State under President Tyler, stating that, owing to Mr. McDuffie's extreme delicate health he would not go on to Nashville, as was intended, and urging, in the most decided manner, to go on in his place. I was then a member of our State Senate, and had withdrawn from Federal politics and most respectfully declined; but Mr. Calhoun immediately wrote again, still urging me to go. A few days after, I met Col. Elmore, at a Democratic meeting, in Augusta—I think 4th of August—who told me he had received letters from Mr. Calhoun to the same effect of mine, and after conversing fully with him, I agreed to go to Nashville, but very reluctantly, and upon the condition that he would have the fact announced in the Mercury, that they were glad to know that I had consented to go to Nashville in the place of Mr. McDuffie. I think some such announcement will be found in the Mercury's editorial, between the 4th and 12th of August, 1844. Those acquainted with the local politics of South Carolina, at that particular period, will at once perceive my object in having this inserted in that paper, and by Col. Elmore.

It will be remembered that Mr. Polk had written his celebrated "Kane Letter" to Pennsylvania, which looked like adhering to a tariff for protection per se, unless construed strictly by his former votes and speeches in Congress. This letter had created great uneasiness in the public mind throughout the South. My object in having an interview with Mr. Polk, before I spoke at any convention, was to have a thorough understanding as to the true meaning of that letter, and to know, in detail, what would be the policy of his administration as to a tariff and the repeal of the odious and unjust tariff of 1842.

With this view, we went over the tariff of 1833 and 1842, and compared them together, provision by provision, and if his library be preserved, pencil marks in my hand-writing, will be found in the margin of both these tariffs, and the alterations and changes agreed upon in consultation. Suffice it to say, that specifics and minimums, the bases of all protection, per se, were to be abolished, and the ad valorem principle introduced in any measure to be adopted.

I remained at Mr. Polk's house two nights and a day, and was thoroughly satisfied that he was with us entirely on the great principles of a free trade tariff in all its leading features. This was one of the principal objects of that visit. But the first great object was in reference to the annexation of Texas. It was considered principally in relation to what part Great Britain might take as to annexation. She had attempted to open negotiations with Gen. Houston, then President of Texas, to prevent annexation with us. I trust the public will bear with me, while I dwell somewhat in detail upon this great question, for the young men of the day seem to have forgotten the points. Mr. Benton's book has suppressed the matter entirely, as he was opposed to annexation, and went off with Mr. Van Buren. I had had a full interview with Gen. Jackson, and he had told me that Gen. Houston had no idea of listening to the proposals of Great Britain, but only intended to use the offers she had made with a view of exciting the public mind in the United States to the absolute necessity of annexation. The application of Texas for annexation had previously, under the administration of Mr. Van Buren, while Mr. Forsyth was Secretary of State, been rejected, or at least received with entire indifference. We had serious difficulties arising between us and Great Britain in relation to the Oregon question. Under the "joint occupancy" treaty, her citizens, with the privileges of the Hudson Bay Company, had all the advantage they wanted, in trapping over the whole region, there being no definite boundary fixed. We had a prize-prising population seeking a home in that region, and from the uncertainty as to the boundary, they were constantly brought into collision with the Hudson Bay Company and British subjects, and we were in imminent danger of being dragged into a premature war by a wronged and excited frontier population. It became eminently politic, therefore, as a peace measure, that notice to terminate this joint occupancy treaty should be given, and thus take the question of peace or war out of the hands of an excited and interested frontier people, and hold it under the control of government itself. These questions being kept open, might give Great Britain a pretext to instigate Mexico to a war with us in reference to Texas annexation, if it should be effected, and the difficulties that might arise were considered, at that time, more with reference to Great Britain and her citizens acting on Mexico, than in relation to a direct issue with Mexico herself.

Lord Aberdeen, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Great Britain, had written that elaborate and extraordinary letter, dated December 26, 1848, in relation to Texas and the abolition of slavery, which he disposed to be read or communicated to the American Secretary of State. He justified the course his government pursued towards Texas in attempting to prevent annexation and procure emancipation, in the following language viz: "With regard to the latter point, (abolishing slavery in Texas,) it must be and is well known, both to the United States and to the whole world, that Great Britain desires and is constantly exerting herself to procure the general abolition of slavery throughout the world." Again, in the same communication, he says: "With regard to Texas, we avow that we wish to see slavery abolished there as elsewhere, and we should rejoice if the recognition of that country by the Mexican Government should be accompanied by an engagement on the part of Texas to abolish slavery eventually and under proper conditions throughout the Republic." At the world's convention, held in London previous to this, Mr. Lewis Tappan, of New York, said: "In a conversation I had with the Hon. J. Q. Adams, on that subject, (the annexation of Texas,) he (Mr. Adams) said, I deem it the duty of Great Britain, as a Christian nation, to tell the Texans, that slavery must be abolished, that it shall not be planted there after all the efforts and sacrifices that have been made to abolish it all over the world. The annexation of Texas will be a leading topic next Congress, but I will oppose it with all the vigor and talent that God has given me. If slavery is abolished in Texas, it will speedily fall throughout America; and when it falls in America, it will expire throughout Christendom."

It will be remembered that Mr. Adams was the first member of Congress, in 1836, who commenced this great slavery agitation, on the shallow pretext as to the abstract right of petition, used only by him as the means of agitation and exciting low prejudices. When he was in Mr. Munro's Cabinet and a candidate for the Presidency, he courted the South, and in that Cabinet is represented as being the only member who opposed declaring the slave trade piracy, and is said also to have been opposed to that clause in our treaty with Great Britain, by which our Government became bound to keep up a joint fleet on the coast of Africa to suppress the slave trade. It is also said that he was the only member of the same Cabinet who opposed the adoption of the Missouri restriction line as to slavery. It is said that Mr. Munro required the opinion of each member of his Cabinet in writing as to the policy of supporting the restriction of slavery below the line of 36 deg. 30, commonly known as the Missouri Compromise, and that each member gave his opinion in writing in favor of the restriction, except Hon. J. Q. Adams. And yet, after the South had unanimously repudiated him and voted for General Jackson, in 1828, at the close of a bitter canvass, he then seems to have changed his policy, and become the bitter and angry assailant of a South, soon after he took his seat as a member of Congress.

It will be remembered, too, that it was said he was the man who made that secret communication in relation to the treason of the Federalists and all connected with the Hartford Convention, although his own illustrious and noble father had been head of the Federal party. Soon afterwards, he was appointed to St. Petersburg, and regularly enrolled in the Republican party of that day, and became one of its leaders, securing the Presidential purple, in 1824, by an election before the House of Representatives. I mention these things to show that, by his foreign reputation and high position at home, he became eminently suited for a great agitation, and to be used by those who had overthrown slavery in the West India Islands, through agitation in the British Parliament to affect the same purposes in America, and thus reduce the principal commercial and manufacturing rival of Great Britain to the same level with herself in the future race for power and ascendancy.

Sir Robert Peel, immediately after this declaration of Mr. Tappan, at the world's fair, carried the discriminating duty on sugar; the effect of which was to make all slave-grown sugar pay a high tax over free labor sugar, and he put it upon the ground, using his own words, "That it would enable him to force a treaty with Brazil for the abolition of slavery—make the attempt, try to get concessions from those from whom you get your supplies. You may depend upon it, there is a growing conviction among the people of these countries that slavery is not unaccompanied by great danger. In Cuba, in the United States, in the Brazil, there is a ferment on the subject of slavery, which is spreading and will spread. Some from humane and benevolent motives, some on account of interested fears, begin to look at the great example we have set, and begin to look at the consequences which may result from that example nearer home. It is impossible to look at the distance in the United States of America, and especially to the condition between the Northern and Southern States, without seeing that slavery is in those States, stands on a precarious footing; (cuba,) it is some policy is growing in Brazil and Cuba, &c."

The Hon. John Reed, a leading member