

claiming persons owing service in one State, and escaping into another, and approved by Millard Fillmore, the President of the United States, on the 18th day of September, 1850 :

And whereas, the operation of said law allows any person in the southern States to go into any court, or before any Justice of the Peace, or any other person authorized to take depositions in any State or organized territory of the United States, and swear that any colored person owes him or her service or labor, and has escaped therefrom, and may take out a warrant for the arrest of such person in any United States court, in any State or Territory, and seize such person, with or without a warrant, and command the assistance of bystanders to make the arrest :

And, whereas, any person so arrested may be taken before any United States court in any state or territory of the United States, and deprived of his or her liberty in a summary manner, by any Judge, Justice, or Commissioner of the United States :

And, whereas, any person so arrested and tried, is stripped of the right of trial by jury, deprived of the writ of *habeas corpus*, contrary to the provisions of the Constitution of the United States :

And, whereas, any white person may seize and arrest any colored person, and drag him or her, by violence, before any United States Judge, Justice, or Commissioner, and swear away the liberty of any person so arrested :

And, whereas, any person assisting another to escape, either before or after trial, or is known to conceal a person claimed as a slave, is subject to a fine of one thousand dollars ; and thus, in every possible way, placing the liberty of colored persons in every state or territory of this Union, completely at the mercy of slaveholders, or their agents, with every safeguard of liberty stricken down : therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That we utterly repudiate the law and its provisions ; that it is so repugnant to every principle of justice, that it can have no binding force whatever upon us ; and that we do here, in the sight of God, and before all men, declare, that should any attempt be made to execute its provisions on any of us, either by invading our homes or arresting us in the street, we will treat such an one as assaulting our persons with intent to kill, and, God being our helper, will use such means as will repel the aggressor and defend our lives and liberty.

2. *Resolved*, That we are worthy neither of our homes nor of the confidence of our wives and children, unless we are prepared to sacrifice ourselves freely, if necessary, on the altar of freedom and in their defence.

3. *Resolved*, That the teachings and examples of our countrymen, the promptings of our nature as men, as well as our duty towards God, tell us that whenever the unjust provisions of this law against God and humanity shall be attempted to be enforced against either of us, it

ist, but the large and generous soul of the man. The brow is absolutely illuminated with thought, and the mouth has all the firmness of independent critical decision.

In the deep, dark eye of Hawthorne lies the secret of that wonderful mastery—that half-beautiful, half-fearful power—that strange, weird-like fascination, which so enchain one in “The Scarlet Letter” ; while, in the warm fullness and quiet scorn of the lips, we re-read that memorable “Preface,” wherein the play of delicate fancy and a delicious humor alternated with cold, sharp strokes of merciless satire.

Mr. Hawthorne is, according to this portrait, a singularly handsome man ; but his face wears an expression of unconsciousness, or rather disdain, of his beauty.

Finely contrasting with this picture is one of the poet Longfellow. This, taken some ten years since, is strikingly like the genius and the gentleman. Over the face is spread the glow of a genial and harmonious nature,—his eye seems to gleam sunnily, rather than to lighten—and his lips seem moulded by the gentlest affections.

Mr. Thompson has also some fine portraits of the New York literati. That of Bryant is full of character,—having a sort of severe earnestness, a grave simplicity, the depth and repose of genius ; and the most wonderfully life-like portrait, I think, that I have ever seen is that of Hoffman.

Mr. Thompson is very successful in crayons. He has lately executed one of our friend, Helen Irving, which is much admired for its beauty and a certain thoughtfulness and spirituality of expression. The very light of the soul is about the low, Grecian brow.

To return to our Boston visit. In the evening, we went with a party of friends to see Charlotte Cushman as Meg Merrilies. It was a great treat for us all—aside from the Richard of Booth, the grandest personation I had ever seen.—It was throughout a magnificent display of power, and wrought one up to a fearful pitch of excitement. I can hardly conceive of anything more terrible than the death scene, or more touching than the dying tenderness of the old Gipsy Queen for Harry Bertram, her “bonnie bairn.” Miss Cushman is indeed a wonderful woman. Her acting has an almost superhuman strength, as well from her great physical vigor, as from the intensity of her passion. Her voice is the outgoing of an overmastering power,—a wave of her arm has all the force of fate, her glance paralyzes and subdues. If ever an eye shot lightnings, hers does, in the scene where, as Meg Merrilies, she, with one awful look, arrests the descending blade of the smuggler.

When, after the play, the great actress, obeying the tumultuous call of her admirers, was led before the curtain, and her pleasant, winning smile warmed our hearts toward her, we found it difficult to believe her the same Gipsy

tempted to be enforced against either of us, it were far better that a thousand lives perish in the rescue, than that a single human being be permitted to be dragged from our midst into hopeless bondage; and that we desire no grave prouder than that over which shall stand the monument, and no page of history prouder than that which shall second the deed, of such rescue.

4. *Resolved*, That it has ever been our aim and earnest desire, to be good law abiding citizens, and that we will strive such to be; nevertheless, we cannot, for one moment, entertain the idea of compliance with the terms of that bill, its force being lost in the fact that it is at variance with the laws of our nature and of God; and further, because we believe it to be at variance with the spirit and letter of our Declaration of Independence, and of the Constitution established under that declaration.

5. *Resolved*, That the provisions of the Fugitive Slave bill of 1850, leaving us no other alternative, we must adopt the motto of our sister state, Virginia;—"Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God."

6. *Resolved*, That we declare to Mason and the aiders and abettors of this arbitrary and despotic law, in the language of Daniel Webster, "that there is something on earth greater than arbitrary and despotic power; the lightning has its power, and the whirlwind has its power, and the earthquake has its power,—but there is something among men more capable of shaking despotic power than lightning, whirlwind or earthquake—that is, the threatened indignation of the civilized world."

7. *Resolved*, That "God willed us free—man willed us slaves,—we will as God wills, God's will be done."

8. *Resolved*, That inasmuch as desperate efforts are being made to reclaim fugitives who have fled for liberty, to reclaim them at all costs, we, sympathizing with such fugitives, and believing that they would be justified therein by the promptings of nature, by the precepts of Patrick Henry and of Washington, by the glorious example of Madison and of Washington, do counsel them to do as we would,—to arm themselves with the surest and most deadly weapons; to resist unto death, for which, if they be not prepared, we advise them to repair, with all possible dispatch, to where the law as well as nature proclaims them free.

9. *Resolved*, That in giving ten millions of dollars to the South, for land which the south never owned,—in promising to pay one thousand dollars each to the south for every bondman who may escape therefrom,—in converting her once free soil into a hunting ground for the panting fugitive, and in offering to her own citizens a bribe on the one hand to join in the chase, and fine and imprisonment on the other hand for refusing to do so, the once free North has sold herself, body and soul, to the darkest spirit of slavery; and has, through her chosen President and subservient members of Congress, declared, "in tones that will pierce the ears of half

finding some names our hearts toward her, we found it difficult to believe her the same Gipsy hag whose terrific laugh had so lately frozen all the blood in our veins.

From the English Mechanics' Magazine.

### Extension of the Electric Telegraph to France, Ireland and America.

The establishment of an electro-telegraphic communication across the Straits between England and France has been for a considerable time foreseen, as one of the most natural in the train of consequences resulting from the modern application of electricity to the transmission of intelligence between distant parts. If a line of wire could convey the electric impulse for thousands of miles over the surface of the earth—as it has done and is doing—there could be nothing in the nature of things to prevent it from being equally efficacious if carried under the earth, or even under water; granted always, what no one has been heard to dispute, that it is in the power of art to protect the wire from whatever antagonistic influences it may be exposed to, when laid down under earth or water. Trials of submerged wire had, in fact, been made with perfect success across the Thames and the Hudson—both tolerably broad rivers; and it was not doubted that what could be accomplished in this way for one mile, could be accomplished for thirty or fifty, or indeed any number of miles. It was but in any case, to make the line of submerged wire longer—to sink it, perhaps, deeper; and, if deeper, to protect it better.

The simplest of things, however when carried out on a large scale, require often, as in this instance, for the doing of them, qualities of a high order—great enterprise, great perseverance, great executive powers of construction and direction. It was a great thing, assuredly, to undertake to underlay a sea of some thirty miles wide with one continuous line of communication—a single break or flaw in which would be fatal to the whole; there was a risk of failure to be braved, and in any event much expenditure of money, time, and trouble, to be adventured on the issue; and beyond all doubt or question, it is a great thing to have successfully accomplished. To all such honor as belongs to the performing of a great undertaking well, Messrs. Jacob and John Brett, the engineers of the Dover and Calais line of telegraph, are richly entitled. The newspapers say that they have obtained "the exclusive right of electric communication between this country and France for ten years." We do not well see how this can be, looking at the legal difficulties in the way; but we are sure that no reward they can have secured to themselves will be too great for the prodigious advantages which they have secured by their individual exertions, not only to both England and France, but to the world at large; for an electric telegraph to Calais, is not a thing which will stop there. It is a telegraph to Vienna, to Moscow, to Constantinople, to Ispahan, to Delhi, to Calcutta—to the remotest bounds, in short, of Europe and Asia. A few years ago the people laughed when Lord Pal-

declared, "in tones that will pierce the ears of half the human race, that the last great experiment of representative government has failed," and has "caused millions of eyes of those who fed their inherent love of liberty upon the success and prosperity of the American example, to turn away from our deep disgrace, with dissatisfaction and disgust; and has caused the doctrine of the divine right of kings to feel, even in its grave; a returning sensation of vitality and re-suscitation."

10. *Resolved*, That we call upon all American citizens who have any regard for constitutional law, or any reverence for the history of our glorious past, or any pride in our national reputation abroad, to join in the cry of repeal—repeal the infamous bill, which barter the life and liberty of a freeman for the oath of any wretch who may swear that he is a slave.

11. *Resolved*, That we will circulate petitions to the legislature of this State, calling for a law to protect its free colored citizens from slavery; and for resolutions instructing the members of Congress to urge the repeal of the Fugitive Slave bill.

12. *Resolved*, That we will send petitions to Congress, praying for the repeal of the Fugitive Slave bill of 1850.

13. *Resolved*, That, actuated by nothing other than pure humanity, in attempting to carry out these resolutions whenever necessity requires them, we will further endeavor to infuse their healthful spirit into the minds and hearts of our fellow citizens.

14. *Resolved*, That the President of this meeting be appointed to receive the names of all persons who may be willing to act on the secret committee; and all persons who are fugitive to report themselves to the chairman of the meeting, who must have their real name, and the name of their master, in order that the secret committee may know what to do in the premises.

#### Grace Greenwood's Letter.

We make the following extract from one of Grace Greenwood's letter to the Era, dated at Lynn, where she has been spending a portion of the season:

One day of last week we spent in Boston very pleasantly. We passed about an hour of the morning in the studio of Mr. C. G. Thompson, in looking at his fine pictures. The portraits of this painter not only show great artistic skill, but a remarkable appreciation of character and a clear spiritual insight. The portrait of Whipple is a more just and entire revelation of him, than the finest critic of character could give, in the most elaborate representation. We not only see, in the intense, full eye, the clear, subtle, searching analytic faculty of the brilliant essay-

years ago the people laughed when Lord Palmerston predicted at the Southampton meeting of the British Association, that a time might come when the minister of the day being asked in Parliament, "whether it was true that a war had broken out in India?" would reply, "Wait an instant till I telegraph the Governor-General, and I will tell you." What was thought but a good joke in 1843, is now, in 1850, in the course of being actually accomplished, and ere a few years more, is likely to take its place among the sober realities of the age. Nor to the old world alone need our views of the ultimate progress of electro-telegraphy be confined; for, since the English Channel has been crossed, the crossing of the Irish must follow next, as a matter of course; and Ireland once reached, there lies but a couple of thousand miles of water or so between the Old World and the New. We say "but," for after all where is the practical difficulty? Not in producing the length of wire required; for any length of wire can be spun—not in covering and insulating the wire, for thousands of miles of wire can be covered and insulated just as readily and surely as one—nor yet in laying down, as the Dover and Calais experiment has fully shown.—The only real difficulty in the case, we apprehend, will be to find ship room for the enormous coil of wire that would be required; but this is an objection which vanishes before the recollection of such Leviathan structures as the Canada and Great Britian. Besides means may be found to effect on the laying-down vessel a perfect junction of different lengths of wire, so as to allow of two, three, or more reels being employed. We assume, of course, that battery power sufficient to transmit the electric impulse through a wire some two thousand miles long is at our command. But though we are not aware of any recorded experiments that would justify us in taking the possibility of this for granted, we know that the recently receiving magnet of Morse is founded on the principle of counting for nothing the mere distance the electric message has to be transmitted; and, at all events, the fact is one capable of tentative determination on land before a single yard of the Atlantic line need be laid down. The Old and New World being thus united we should then see the dream of the poet even more than realised, the earth "girdled round about"—not in "forty minutes"—but in a thousandth part of the time—a single beat of the clock.—What would all other triumphs of human genius be to this? Time and distance literally annihilated throughout the bounds of the planet we inhabit! A triumph only to be transcended when the planets shall themselves begin to telegraph one another which is one of the very few things which, in this age of art-miracles, one would venture without hesitation to say will never happen.

**Grace Greenwood's Letter.**

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