

Democratic Banner.

BY MOORE & THOMPSON.

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THE BANNER

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POETRY.

HOW SHALL I MEET THEE?

How shall I meet thee?—With the trust,
Thee, fond trust of other years!
With the deep, fervent joy that must
Express itself in silent tears.
With eager grasp, and gladdened tone,
Such smiles as for our childhood mourn?
No—Friendship blooms no more for us,
This long since I have met thee thus!

How shall I meet thee?—With the blush
That kindles at thine earnest gaze,
While quick thoughts for my spirit rush,
The quivering lip my heart betrays:
With voice whose faltering accents breathe
The trembling joy that lurks beneath?
No—Such vain dreams are not for us,
I do not wish to meet thee thus.

How shall I meet thee?—With an eye
That sheds no brightness, yet no tears;
With headless zone and cold reply,
The chilling garb indifference wears;
With sudden heart yet careless mien,
Revealing nought of what has been?
Yes! changes and have altered us,
Alas! that I must meet thee thus!

New Monthly Magazine.

Love Tale.

Thou art the victor, Love!
Thou art the peerless, crown'd, the free—
The strength of the battle is given to thee—
The spirit from above! Mrs. Hemans.

In a beautiful valley, far removed from the turmoil and chincery of towns and cities, lived Thomas and Ellen. They were the children of substantial farmers who dwelt near each other, and whose farms were washed by a beautiful creek, that meandered through the whole length of the vale. With this silvery stream and its surrounding scenery, I am well acquainted. On the days of my boyhood I have wandered along its green banks, plucking the gay flowers that adorned the adjacent meads, or listening to the song that was poured from its sparkling waters. For hours I stood upon its shores, tempting its scaly inhabitants with the well baited hook, or talking to the Naiads that presided over its sunny fountains. The trees that adorned its banks are old acquaintances. Through them I have wandered when spring had scarce redeemed them from the ravages of winter, and in autumn I have sought their shades; when the yellow leaves, emblems of decay, were falling thick around me. Near the bank of this creek, stood the mansion in which Ellen resided. It was a plain stone building of convenient dimensions, surrounded by a variety of indigenous trees and shrubs. The farm attached to it, was well cultivated, and embraced within its limits a acre, which was very much celebrated throughout that country. Having a full share of my great-grandmother Eva's begotting sin, curiosity, I was very curious to see what the bottom of this wonderful cavern was composed of. In order, therefore, to accomplish this object, I, one pleasant summer afternoon, mastered a sufficient force from among my fellow students, and started off, with the determination of exploring the cave to its inmost depths. We found ourselves at its mouth after a walk of about four miles, and after having rested our weary limbs for a short time, down we went, one after another, sometimes crawling, and sometimes sliding through mud and mire. At length we reached what might be termed an apology for a cavern; as the bottom was a spring of pure water, from which we all drank, and being rewarded, in our search for curiosities, with the bones of a tortoise, we ascended to the upper regions. We now found ourselves in about the same pickle that the body of Hector was after having been dragged three times around the walls of Troy by Achilles: covered from head to foot with mud and dirt. After making ourselves "look as decent as possible," we struck what the hunters call a "bee line," for the aforesaid stone mansion: here we were invited, by its hospitable inhabitants, "to stay for tea," but this kind invitation we politely declined, and, after being refreshed by a pitcher of milk we departed. About one mile further up the creek, stood the mansion in which our hero generally resided. It was a plain frame building, unadorned by either tree or shrub; but the farm attached to it, was under a very good state of cultivation. Considerable may be said in this description, as exceedingly unromantic; but I cannot help it, because I neither superintended the building of the house, nor the laying out of the grounds. You must therefore be content, and rest satisfied with what you have got. Next in order, comes the description of our hero and heroine. Thomas was a young man of middle stature, and had as good an education as any school in the valley could afford. He was generally in his department, industrious and unassuming. In religious matters he was neither a fool nor a bigot, but a proselytizer of the old school, and a consistent teetotaler. Ellen was as pretty as the generality of young ladies of that country, and her manners were modest and unobtrusive. She understood her domestic duties very well, and her education was as complete as that of Thomas. Living so near each other, and their dispositions corresponding so well, it is not at all wonderful that they should love—and love they did, and were married! So ends my love tale. "My you, were married!" and your story ends: "Did the old house burn?" "No! all the old house and the new house!" "Not at all!" "Did they get into the creek, and Thomas ship in?"

and drag her from a watery grave!" No such thing. "Well then, did they not ramble through the groves, and vow eternal constancy, call upon the Naiads and Dryads to witness their love?" Not that I know of. But I will tell you what they did do. "They went to house-keeping!" Now don't, gentle reader, don't fly into a passion and lose all self-control, but keep cool and act like a philosopher. If you want to know why I have talked about the cave, groves, sunny fountains, &c., I can easily tell you; it was just because I had nothing else to talk about. My story is nothing more or less than one of those plain antiquated things called matters of fact, and this, I suppose, is the most disagreeable feature of it. But I am not yet done, for I intend to read the reader a short lecture. When you commenced perusing my story, you, no doubt, imagined that I was going to relate the history of some of those fictitious beings that exist only in the brains of novelists. Had I done so, in addition to doing you a real injury, I would have violated my own principles. Thousands of our fellow-beings, spend much of their time in reading a mass of corrupted trash, that is continually flowing from the public press in the shape of love tales. From these they gain nothing useful, but on the contrary, they generally prove very injurious. Memory is debased, the empire of reason is subverted, and a volatile imagination is substituted. I am not, therefore, disposed to throw in my crust, to feed this depraved and degenerate appetite. Let me ask you reader, whoever you are, young or old, male or female, is the store-house of your mind filled with all the lore of the past?—Are Socrates and Plato numbered among your acquaintances? Can you solve the mysterious paths of the Wanderers? Do you understand the immortal theories of Lock and Newton? Can you talk with nature as with a familiar friend, or can you listen to the sublime music of the spheres?—Are all earth's languages thine, and can you number all her nations and tribes? Are all the sciences your intimate companions, and all the arts your servants. If you answer in the negative, I ask, why spend your time upon such insignificant trash as love tales and novels, when so much that is useful and noble is yet to be learned? Let us be wise, fellow-mortals, and cast our fictions to the moles and bats. Our time is very precious. It is infinitely more valuable than gold, and it is flying away from us with a rapidity that mocks the speed of the lightning. Let us therefore improve it. We have no time to play. Life is no fiction; death is no fiction, and the scenes of sorrow and iniquity, that we daily witness, are no fictions—they are stern realities. Is it not strange, therefore, that creatures, surrounded by so much that is serious, should prefer folly to wisdom, lies to truth, and ignorance to knowledge? Cast your eyes, my friend, upon the human family, and when you have explored this great field, read novels! Listen to the voice of Divine Revelation, hear it speaking of Death, Judgment, and Eternity; and when you give in wisdom the inspired prophet of God, set down and devote your time to love tales! But until that is the case, you had better discard the light literature of the day, and turn your attention to the acquisition of knowledge. Do you not admire those mighty spirits, who devoted their energies and lives for the benefit of their fellow men, and whose names are written upon the scroll of everlasting fame. But what would our sensations be, if the biographer of Newton should write, "I, one day, found this great man deeply engaged in reading the latest novel?" Certainly we should feel very much as Stephens did, when, in searching for the tomb of Theophrastus, he came across the wooden head-board erected to the memory of John Johnson! But if we condemn a practice of this kind in great men, why not in ourselves? If we esteem them as examples, why not pursue the paths that they point out, and in which they have walked? A chaste imagination is much to be desired, as it is a source of happiness that never fails. To it we can apply when other means of pleasure and instruction are cut off, and by it, those hours, which, to many, are full of ennui, may be rendered not only tolerable, but agreeable. The truly learned man is never alone; place him amidst the vast solitudes of Sahara, and in a moment he conjures the spirits of departed ages around him; and converses with them as with familiar friends. Confine him in the darkest cell that oyer tyranny, built, and in an instant, his mind, mocking the gloomy walls, bursts into freedom, and roams at large over the whole face of the earth. But an imagination of this kind can never be acquired by reading light and frivolous tales; for it is the child of a well-disciplined and well-read mind. I might enumerate many pleasures and advantages, that flow from true knowledge, and many miseries and disadvantages, that flow from the want of it; but I hope I have said enough to induce you, at least, to give this subject your serious consideration. And now, through fear, that you have not discovered the beauty of my love tale, I will endeavor to point them out to you. In the first place, by holding out your favorite amusement, as a bait, I have succeeded in getting you to read my lecture. And in the second place, I have informed you of a fact, for which you will search fiction in vain, and that is, that young people may love and be married, without any particular flirtation about it; also, that it is not absolutely necessary, in order to bring about an event of this kind, that the hero, should rescue the heroine, from either fire, water, sword, or pestilence.

OSOR FABULARUM.

Lumber surveyed at Bangor, the past business season, 171,738,803 feet, between forty and fifty millions feet over the last, or any previous year.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE. The Oregon Negotiation.

The Washington Union, publishes the correspondence of the State Department, with the British Minister, upon the Oregon question. The first letter is from Mr. Fox to Mr. Webster, dated Nov. 15th, 1842, including an extract of a despatch from Lord Aberdeen, in which the wishes of the Government of Great Britain, in respect to a negotiation, are fully set forth. Mr. Webster's answer is dated November 25th, in which he is directed to say that the President concurred entirely in the expediency of making the question, respecting the Oregon territory, of immediate attention and negotiation between the two governments.

The next letters are from Mr. Pakenham, envoy extraordinary, to Mr. Upsher, then Secretary of State, informing him that he was ready to confer with him with a view to ulterior negotiation, and Mr. Upsher's answer, appointing a time, Feb. 27th, 1844.

The next letter is dated July 22d, 1844, from Mr. Pakenham to Mr. Calhoun, informing him of the steps taken in the negotiation, which the sudden death of Mr. Upsher had interrupted, and repeating the desire to proceed to the consideration of the question; to which Mr. Calhoun sent a reply Aug. 23d, appointing next day for the conference, which was accepted. The conference adjourned to meet Monday, 26th, to hear proposals from the respective governments. At the third conference, the American plenipotentiary, Mr. Calhoun, presented a written statement of his views of the claims of the United States, and declined to accept the British minister's proposal. This letter and the answer of Mr. Pakenham presents the arguments advanced by the two governments, sustaining their respective claims. Mr. Calhoun declines the proposal of the British Minister, on the ground that it would have the effect of restricting the possession of the United States to limits far more circumscribed than their claims clearly entitle them to. It proposed to limit their northern boundary by a line drawn from the Rocky Mountains along the 49th parallel of latitude to the northeasternmost branch of the Columbia river, and thence down the middle of that river to the sea—giving to Great Britain all the country north, and to the United States, all south of that line, except a detached territory extending on the Pacific and the straits of Fuca, from Bulfinch's harbor to Hood's canal. To which it is proposed, in addition, to make free to the United States any port which the United States government might desire, either on the mainland or on Vancouver's island, south of latitude 49 degrees. This parallel assigns to Great Britain almost the entire region (on its north side) drained by the Columbia river, lying on its northern bank.

Mr. C. then brings forward our claims to the portion of the territory drained by the Columbia River, which we possess in our own proper right, and those we derive from France and Spain. Captain Gray a citizen of the United States, passed the bar of the Columbia river, and anchored miles above its mouth, on the 11th of May, 1792, and gave it its present name. This claim of discovery and entrance is opposed by the alleged discoveries of Meares and Vancouver. The former, five years before Captain Gray's discovery, explored a portion of the coast through which the Columbia flows, but left a record in his own journal that he did not discover the river, and in consequence of the failure, called the promontory lying north of the inlet where he expected to discover it, Cape Disappointment, and the inlet itself Deception Bay. Vancouver, in April, 1792, explored the same coast; but it is no less certain that he failed to discover the River—of which his own journal furnishes the most conclusive evidence. He was subsequently informed of Gray's discovery, and entered the River on the 20th of October.

The evidence of the priority of our discovery of the head branches of the Columbia River and its exploration is equally conclusive. Lewis and Clarke, in the expedition in the summer of 1805, reached the head waters of the Columbia, and descended to the mouth of the river, and wintered on Cape Disappointment. Mr. Calhoun says:

"It was this important expedition which brought to the knowledge of the world this great River—the greatest by far on the Western side of this continent—with its numerous branches, and the vast regions, through which it flows, above the points to which Gray and Vancouver had ascended. It took place many years before it was visited and explored by any civilized nation, so far as we are informed. It is clearly entitled us to the claim of priority of discovery, as to its head branches and the exploration of the river and region through which it passes, as the voyages of Captain Gray and the Spanish navigator, Heceta, entitled us to priority in reference to its mouth, and the entrance into its channel."

Our priority of settlement is equally certain. "Establishments were formed by American citizens on the Columbia as early

as 1809 and 1810. In the latter year, a company was formed in New York, at the head of which was John Jacob Astor, a wealthy merchant of that city, the object of which was to form a regular chain of establishments on the Columbia river, and the contiguous coasts of the Pacific, for commercial purposes. Early in the spring of 1811, they made their first establishment on the south side of the river, a few miles above Point George, where they were visited in July following by Mr. Thompson, a surveyor and astronomer of the Northwest Company, and his party. They had been sent out by that company to forestall the American company in occupying the mouth of the river, but found themselves defeated in their object. The American company formed two other establishments higher up the river—one at the confluence of the Okenegean with the north branch of the Columbia, about six hundred miles above its mouth; and the other on the Spokan, a stream falling into the north branch, some fifty miles above."

These posts fell into the possession of Great Britain during the war declared the next year, but were restored by the Treaty of Ghent, which placed our position where it was before it passed into the hands of British subjects.

To these claims are added the claims of France and Spain:

"The former we obtained by the treaty of Louisiana, ratified in 1803; and the latter by the treaty of Florida, ratified in 1819. By the former, we acquired all the rights which France had to Louisiana, 'to the extent it now has (1803) in the hands of Spain; and that it had when France possessed it, and such as it should be after the treaties subsequently entered into by Spain and other States.' By the latter, his Catholic Majesty, 'ceded to the United States all his rights, claims and pretensions' to the country lying West of the Rocky Mountains, and North of a line drawn on the 42d parallel of latitude, from a point on the South bank of the Arkansas, in that parallel, to the South Sea; that is, to the whole region claimed by Spain, West of those mountains; and north of that line.

"The cession of Louisiana gave us undisputed title West of the Mississippi, extending to the summit of the Rocky Mountains, and stretching south between that river and those mountains to the possession of Spain, the line between which and ours was afterwards determined by the treaty of Florida."

He then proceeded to make an elaborate argument on the title which continuity gives, and brings forward the contest between Great Britain and France, which was terminated by the treaty of 1763, as having arisen on the side of Great Britain on this very right of continuity from her Colonies now the United States, extending westward to the Pacific. The result of this contest, he says, forecloses Great Britain against contesting the principle particularly against us."

The treaty of 1763, between England and France, after the war, fixed irrevocably the Mississippi River as the permanent boundary between the possessions of England and France, and extinguished in favor of France whatever claim Great Britain may have had to the region lying West of the Mississippi.

"It of course could not affect the rights of Spain—the only other nation which had any pretence of claim west of that river; but it prevented the right of continuity previously claimed by Great Britain from extending beyond it, and transferred it to France. The treaty of Louisiana restored and vested in the United States all the claims acquired by France and surrendered by Great Britain, under the provisions of that treaty, to the country west of the Mississippi, and, among others, the one in her possession of Louisiana, and the extinguishment of the right of England, by the treaty of 1763, to the whole country west of the Rocky Mountains, and lying west of Louisiana, as against Spain, which England had to the country westward of the Allegheny mountains, as against France, at the time, but the right of discovery; and even that, England has since denied: while France had opposed to the right of England, in her case, that of discovery, exploration, and settlement. It is, therefore, not at all surprising, that France should claim the country west of the Rocky mountains, (as may be inferred from her maps,) on the same principle that Great Britain had claimed and dispossessed her of the regions west of the Allegheny; or that the United States, as soon as they had acquired the rights of France, should assert the same claim, and take measures immediately after, to explore it, with a view to occupation and settlement. But since then we have strengthened our title, by adding to our own proper claims and those of France, the claims also of Spain, by the treaty of Florida, as has been stated:

"The claims which we have acquired from her, between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific rest on her priority of discovery. Numerous voyages of discovery, commencing with that of Maldonado in 1526, and ending with that under Galles and Valdes, in 1792, were undertaken

by her authority, along the north-western coast of North America. That they discovered and explored not only the entire coast of what is now called the Oregon Territory, but still further north, is a fact too well established to be controverted at this late day. The voyages which they performed will, accordingly, be passed over at present without being particularly alluded to, with the exception of that of Heceta. His discovery of the mouth of the Columbia river has been already referred to. It was made on the 13th of August, 1775—many years anterior to the voyages of Meares and Vancouver, and was prior to Cook's, who did not reach the northwestern coast until 1778. The claims it gave to Spain of priority of discovery, were transferred to us, with all others belonging to her, by the treaty of Florida; which, added to the discoveries of Captain Gray, places our right to the discovery of the mouth and entrance into the inlet and river beyond all controversy.

It has been objected that we claim under various and conflicting titles, which mutually destroy each other. Such might indeed be the fact while they were held by different parties; but since we have rightfully acquired both those of Spain and France, and concentrated the whole in our hands, they mutually blend with each other, and form one strong and conjoined claim of title against the opposing claims of all others, including Great Britain.

He next refers to what has occurred since the Treaty of Ghent, between the United States and Great Britain, in reference to the territory. "During the negotiation of the Treaty of Ghent in 1814, the United States were admitted by Lord Castlereagh, as entitled to be considered as the party in possession; and the convention which stipulated that the territory should be free and open for the term of ten years; from the date of its signature, to the vessels, citizens, and subjects, of the two countries, without prejudice to any claim which either party may have to any part of the same, preserved and perpetuated all our claims to the territory, including the acknowledged right to be considered the party in possession, as perfectly during the period of its continuance as they were the day the convention was signed.

After an abortive attempt to adjust the claims of the two parties to the territory, in 1824, another negotiation was commenced in 1826—which terminated in the signing, on the 6th of August, 1827, the third article of the convention in 1818, prior to its expiration. It provided for the indefinite extension of all the provisions of the third article of that convention; and also, that either party might terminate it at any time it might think fit, by giving one year's notice, after the 20th of October, 1828.—It took, however, the precaution of providing expressly that "nothing contained in this Convention, or in the third article of the Convention of the 20th October, 1818, hereby continued in force, shall be construed to impair, or in any manner affect the claims which either of the contracting parties may have to any part of the country westward of the Stony or Rocky Mountains." That convention is now in force, and has continued to be so, since the expiration of that of 1818. "By the joint operation of the two, our right to be considered the party in possession, and all the claims we had to the territory while in possession, are preserved in as full vigor as they were at the date of its restoration in 1818, without being affected or impaired by the settlements since made by the subjects of Great Britain.

Time, indeed, so far from impairing our claims, has greatly strengthened them, since that period; for, since then, the Treaty of Florida transferred to us all the rights, claims, and pretensions of Spain to the whole territory, as has been stated.—The consequence of this, our claims to the portion drained by the Columbia river—the point now the subject of consideration—has been much strengthened; by giving us the incontestable claim to the discovery of the mouth of the Columbia river by Heceta. But it is not in this particular only, that it has operated in our favor. Our well founded claim, grounded on continuity, has greatly strengthened, during the same period, by the rapid advances of our population towards the territory—its great increase, especially in the valley of the Mississippi—as well as the greatly increased facility of passing to the territory by more accessible routes, and the far stronger and rapidly swelling tide of population that has recently commenced flowing into it.

Next follows Mr. Pakenham's reply to the above, dated 12th September, 1844. After briefly stating the grounds on which Mr. Calhoun declined his offer, Mr. P. observes, that he has not been able to discover any evidence that Louisiana extended westward to the Pacific, but has strong reasons to suppose the acknowledged boundary was the Rocky mountains; and quotes President Jefferson, as having entertained that belief. "If however, Louisiana did extend westward over the Rocky mountains, France transferred that claim to Spain in 1762, and it became subject to the provisions of the treaty of 1790, between Great Britain and Spain, which brought the claim of Spain to exclusive