POETRY.

THOUGHTS OF FREEDOM .... For The Tribune.

BY G. M. GILPETT.

Up from the misty verge of Time,
A golden ray is beaming.
Whose glorious light, with truth sublime,
Across the earth is streaming.
Though dimly through the mists of wrong,
It struggles yet,'t will brighten,
And gladsome day break o'er the throng,
God wills it to enlighten:
Then, Brothers, cheer,
The dawn is here,
The dawn our day to brighten!

Old fables that have bound the mind,
And chained the soul to error,
Shall never crush again mankind.
Beneath their weight of terror!
The TRUTH now comes to bless the world,
The chains of men to sever:
And from his throne shall Power be hurled,
To pass away forever!
Then, Brothers, rise,
And grasp the prize,
That waits your firm endeavor.

FREEDOM TO ALL! God speed that day,
Nor let its morning linger;
For on the Future's lifting veil,
'Tis written by His fingers.
The dreaming seer beholds it there,
With heart all wildly beating,
And million breasts send up their prayer,
His aspirations meeting:
Then, Brothers, wake,
The dawn shall break:
Be up to give it greeting!

Oh! bright will be this world of ours,
When chains no longer fetter,
When men shall rank with equal powers
And RIGHT, not RIGHT'S the better;
When Wealth shall have no lordly claim,
To lift its proud possessor,
When Poverty shall bring no shame
To humble its confessor--
When Brothers, all
The great and small,
And earth holds no oppressor!

AFRICAN SLAVE-TRADE.

Official Documents from the American Minister to Brazil.

The documents communicated by the President to the Senate on the 12th of December, in relation to the Traffic in Slaves in Brazil, under the American Flag, have been made public. We give a brief statement of the origin of troubles and the result of the investigation instituted at Rio Janeiro. The information was transmitted to the United States Government by the American Minister at Rio. Mr. Tod: from whose statements it appears that the infamous traffic is still carried on to a great extent.

Not less than 45,000 negroes have been imported into Brazil within the last year. More or less of every cargo are murdered on the voyage, and the survivors are too often used as mere beasts of burden. By far the greater portion of it is carried on in vessels built in the United States, and under the flag of our country.

The American Consul at Rio, in the months of May and July, 1847, took sundry depositions, clearly establishing the fact that the American brig Senator proceeded to the coast of Africa, in the month of December, 1849, and brought to the coast of Brazil a large cargo of negroes. The depositions represent a scene of cruelty and horror indiscribable.

In January, 1848, the American bark, Lourens was seized and sent to the United States. On the 27th of May, in the same year, the United States vessel Alleghany arrived at Rio, to be used in making seizures, where there was evidence of an intention to carry on the slave trade, under our flag.

On the 30th of September following, Mr. Tod recommended the Government to recommend the abolition of all trade, in American vessels, between Brazil and the African coast. On the 24th of July, in the same year M. Tod issued a circular, addressed to the American Consuls in Brazil, with a view to obtain the statistics of the slave trade, as connected with American vessels. On the 11th of January, 1849, after measures had been adopted to stop the illegal traffic, Mr. Tod still complains that the American flag was still used by the illegal traders in human flesh.

On the 8th of January, 1850, Mr. Tod wrote to the Secretary of State that fifty thousand Africans are annually imported into Brazil, and sold as slaves for life One half of this number are introduced through the facilities directly and indirectly afforded by the American flag.

If the Brazilian statutes upon the subject were, faithfully enforced, says Mr. Tod, the slave trade could not continue. Unfortunately, however, those clothed with their administration and execution, with some honorable exceptions, connive at the traffic, and silently acquiesce in the violation of the laws they are sworn to uphold. Whilst the head of the Government, and many of the most enlightened statesmen of the Empire are believed to consider the slave trade as inimical to the true interests of their country, a greater number profess to be honestly of the opinion that the welfare of Brazil demands the continuance of the trade; and, after defending the traffic on the ground of necessity, many proceed to contend that the condition of the African in meliorated when he becomes a Brazilian slave. However repugnant to the principles of sound political economy, and of enlightened humanity, these doctrines may be, they are very generally entertained by the people of Brazil. When to these impressions is added the tremendous power of the Prince, wielded by those who reap the immediate profits of the traffic it may be inferred that the few who labor for its suppression have very embarrassing obstacles to contend with.

In this unequal struggle between humanity and patriotism on the one hand, and cupidity and imaginary self-interest on the other, the influence of the United States flag is scarcely felt, except in support of the slave dealer—the seizures made by American men-of-war weighing as nothing in the scale with the facilities which our colors afford in the transportation to Africa of slave goods, slave crews, and slave vessels.

Many of our vessels have been seized and sent to the United States, for trial, on a charge of participating in the slave traffic; but how seldom, except when slaves have been absolutely found on board, has a condemnation taken place Forfeitures scarcely furnish exceptions to the general rule. Having its inception in a distant land, the crime remains unpunished, because a conviction is in a great measure dependent upon as chain of circumstantial evidence, and an intimate familiarity with the mode of conducting the trade, which are alone attainable upon the spot where the offense originated.

Apart from the odium which the participation of our flag and our citizens in the trade brings upon our country, it not unfrequently happens that privates in the United States become sufferers. The case of the bark Herald is an instance in point. Masters and mates of vessls are sometimes seduced into a betrayal of the interests of their employers, and become pirates, in the hope of suddenly accumulating fortunes .—Might not a repetition of outrages similar to those which mark the case of the Herald, seriously endanger the peace of the countries?

A letter addressed by Mr. Gorham Parks, late U. S. Consul at Rio, to Mr. Tod gives the following important facts:

The number of American vessels which, since the 1st of July, 1844, until the 1st of October, 1849, sailed for the coast of Africa from Rio de Janeiro, is ninety three. Of these vessels, all except five have been engaged in bringing over slaves, and many of them have been captured with the slaves on board. The value of the cargoes it is impossible to ascertain, as the amount of property on which duties are paid at the custom house by no means indicates the true amount carried over. They were all of them load with goods with which to purchase slaves, and with provisions and water for their support on their passage over.

The number of American vessels which have entered from the coast, during the same period, has been fifty-one. The value of imports from Africa, excepting slaves, nothing. There is no trade between either the west or east coast of Africa and Brazil excepting what is connected directly or indirectly with the slave trade.

The English cruisers form the principal impediment to the prosecution of this traffic, and, as our Government does not permit vessels carrying our flag to be searched, our vessels are preferred to most, if not all others, by the slave traders, as offering prefect protection for the traffic from their dreaded enemy.—*Tribune.*

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editors of the North American U. S. Gazette;

LONDON. Dec. 20, 1850.

MR RICHARD COBDEN, the Apostle of Peace, received a challenge on Sunday last from admiral Sir Thomas Hastings, inviting him to fight a duel.

It appears that at the Peace Congress held at Birmingham last month, Mr, Bright, in the course of his speech, ridiculed Sir Thomas, and stated that "the only authority upon which a British Admiral anticipated war between England. and France was the Bishop of Madagascar." Sir Thomas wrote to Mr. Bright and demanded his authority for making such a statement. Mr, Bright replied that Mr. Cobden was his authority. Sir Thomas then wrote to Mr Cobden, calling upon him to state whether, after reperusing his evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons, he could with truth assert that Sir Thomas's sole reason for believing that the hostile feeling of France to England up to 1844, was founded "on an idle story told by the Bishop of Japan" Sir Thomas threatened Mr. Cobden, at the same time, that if he refused to give a satisfactory explanation, he should challenge him to fight a dual! Mr. Cobden received the said challenge on Sunday morning, but he attended divine service, morning, afternoon and evening, as usual, quite undisturbed by Sir Thomas' combustible missives, and not till Wednesday, the 18th did the man of Peace condescend to send a reply to the British Admiral. He then writes—"I understand you to propose that we should lay down our pens and have a personal interview, not to talk over the matter in dispute, but to take our stand at twelve paces apart, with pistols in hand, and endeavor to blow out each other's brains."

Mr. Cobden goes on to say that he is quite satisfied that half an ounce of lead is sufficient of extinguish in a moment all powers to reason, all sense of justice, and every religious sentiment;" and he is at a loss to know how such a process would satisfy him that he had acted unjustly towards Sir Thomas, or convince Sir Thomas of the contrary. Mr. Cobden then states the facts of the case, and re-asserts that Sir Thomas, in giving his evidence before the committee of the House of Commons was requested by Mr. Cobden himself to state upon what authority he assumed that the French nation were eager to go to war with England. Sir Thomas, when pressed closely, quoted, as a proof of the belligerent disposition of the French, "certain warlike sentiments which somebody had heard on board a steamboat fall from the lips of the French Bishop of Japan," (not "Madagascar" as Mr. Bright stated.) Mr. Cobden then advises Sir Thomas that if, unable to restrain the ebullitions of an irascible temper, he must challenge a member of Parliament, merely because another member made a mistake in a single word in a long speech, he had better retire from the public service into his own domestic circle!—*American Paper*

THE WORLD'S EXHIBITION.—The following is a list of some of the principal articles which have been prepared for the Exhibition, to wit: from

New Hampshire—1st, Machine for paying seams of vessels 2d, Cotton cloth. 3d, Stone dressing machine. 4th, Method of connecting hubs and wheels.

Pennsylvania.—1st, Perfumery and fancy soaps 2d, Artificial teeth and specimens of dentistry. 3d, Anthracite coal. 4th, Reaping utensils 5th, Netting machines 6th, Chromo-lithrograph. 7th, Daguerreotypes. 8th, Cod liver oil. 9th, Paper hangings. 10th, Carriages. 11th, Photographic slides, &c. A series of specimens of all the varieties of coal and iron of the State. A magnificent sett of harness designed to be presented to Queen Victoria.

New York.—1st, Bevel sawing machine. 2d, Anti-friction presses. 3d, Indian corn. 4th, Chairs, and rail-road car springs. 5th, Bibles for the blind. 6th, 14 ploughs 7th, White Parmella bonnets. 8th, Agricultural implements. 9th, Pony sleigh. 10th, Farm products. 11th, Starch. 12th, Saxony wool. 13th, Needle work. 14th, Flint glass. 15th, Ladies' shoes. 16th, Model for tempering saws. 17th, Books and specimens of binding 18th, Gold pens and cases 19th, Centrifugal pump 20th, Iron bridge 21st, Corn brooms. 22d, Oil paintings of wild flowers 23d, Self-operating oil press, &c.

Ohio—1st, Lightning-rod points and insulators. 2d, Preserved peaches. 3d, Fine shirt 4th, Machine for hemp dressing. 5th, American Catawba wine 6th, Surgical instruments. 7th, Plough 8th, Steam dried corn mill. 9th, Commercial and banking tables, printed calicoes, beef, tallow and lard; improved bank-lock, &c.

Tennessee.—1st, Gin cotton, one bale. 2d, Subsoil plough, &c.

Rhode Island—1st, Cotton goods. 2d, Meat cutters, &c.

Indiana.—1st, Flour Extractor. 2d, Self-weigh-ing Grain Scales, &c.

Maryland.—1st, Netting Machine and specimens 2d, Soap-Stone.

Kentucky.—1st Planetarium, &c

Illinois.—1st, Patent Reaper, &c.

Alabama.—Minerals, cotton, rice, corn, hominy, flowers, &c.

South Carolina.—Sea Island Cotton, clean Rice, spirits of Turpentine, one Phaeton Carriage, shirting and driling, Palmetto, Oak, Cedar, Poplar, &c

Missuori—Raw Iron Ore, iron Ores, Iron work

New Jersey—Floor Oil Cloth.

Mississippi—Cotton &c.

UNITY OF THE RACES.—The Paris correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce says: At a meeting of the Academy of Sciences, we heard nothing of particular interest, except a report from a very able committee, on the *Negro* race of Eastern Africa, South of the Equartor, as closely and long observed by M. Forberville a scientific traveller He has brought with him sixty casts, (busts) of types of the three divisions of the Negroes. The committee decide that the results of his researches serve, materially, to prove the identity and common local origin of the whole human species. There are various affinities of conformation between the blacks of Eastern Africa.

THE REMAINS OF STEPHEN GIRARD—In pursuance of the arrangements of the Commissioners of the Girard Estates, the remains of Stephen Girard were removed from the grave yard of the Church of the Holy Trinity, on Saturday morning. They were taken to the office of Mr. Simon Gartland Undertaker, No. 21 South Thirteenth street, where they will remain until prepared for final interment in the grounds of the Girard College for Orphans. Here an appropriate monument will be reared by the City Councils to the memory of the great benefactor.

Mr. Edwaad Riddle, of Boston, has been appointed general agent of the United States to the World's Fair, by the President.

If man could have half his wishes, he would double his troubles,

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers
B. Liberia Herald

February 1842(XI,4)--February 18,1857(n.s. VII,4)

1851

NEW SERIES NO 2