

AN ALBUM PIECE BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

The following lines were written in an album belonging to a young lady in West Newbury by John G. Whittier just as he was about leaving to take charge of the Pennsylvania Freeman, then published in Philadelphia, and have never before been printed:

Pardon a stranger hand that gives
 Its impress to these gilded leaves.
 As one who graves in idle mood
 An idle name on rock or wood,
 So in a careless hour I claim
 A page to leave my humble name.
 Accept it; and when o'er my head
 A Pennsylvania sky is spread
 And but in dreams my eye looks back
 On broad and lovely Merrimack,
 And on my ear no longer breaks
 The murmuring music that it makes;
 When but in dreams I look again
 On Salisbury beach—"grasshopper plains"—
 On Powow Stream, on Amesbury Mills
 On old "Cranenook," or "Pipestove" hills—
 Think of me then as one who keeps
 Where Delaware's broad current sweeps,
 And, down its ragged limestone bed
 The Schuylkill's arrowy flight is sped,
 Deep in his heart the scenes which grace
 And glorify his native place
 Love's every spot to childhood dear—
 And leaves his heart untrodden there,
 Longs midst the Dutchman's krot and greens
 For pumpkin pie and pork-and-beans,
 And sighs to think when, sweetly near,
 The soft plane greets his ear,
 That the fair hands, which, small and white,
 Glimmer o'er its ivory's polished light,
 Have never an Indian pudding made,
 Nor fashioned rye-and-Indian bread,
 And oh! where'er his footsteps turn,
 Whatever stars above him burn,
 Though dwelling where a Yankee's name
 Is coupled with reproach and shame,
 Still true to his New England birth,
 Still faithful to his home and hearth,
 Even midst the scornful stranger band
 His boast shall be of Yankee land.
 5th, 11th Month, 1838.

PECULIAR SOUTHERN CUSTOMS.

A feature of interest is the "all-day singings" held at irregular intervals at the churches, when, by arrangements previously made, a certain Sabbath is set apart for an "all-day singing." This will attract a crowd of the younger as well as older residents of not only the immediate neighborhood, but also from distant settlements. After the regular services in the morning are concluded, the entire congregation gather in some grove near by (usually every church has a beautiful grove of shade-trees and spring of pure, crystal water in its immediate vicinity) where the baskets of provisions brought for the occasion are opened and everyone enjoys a regular picnic dinner. After partaking of the refreshments, the people again assemble in the church and for hours indulge in singing gospel hymns and songs of praise.

Another custom worthy of mention is the good care of the neighborhood graveyards by the inhabitants of the settlement, when, by arrangement, a certain day is set apart for all to assemble at the church, bringing the necessary tools to clean up the graveyard. Baskets of provisions are brought on such occasions, and the features of a picnic are added, which rob the manual labor to be performed of much of its appearance of regularity and make it instead an occasion of social intercourse as well.
 Journal.

March 24

What Congress Is Doing

By The Associated Press.

THURSDAY.

Senate.
 Takes up Democratic House tariff bill.

Banking and Currency Committee continues hearings on Glass banking reform bill.

Transfer of public lands to States studied by Lands Committee.

Veterans' legislation considered by Finance Committee.

House.
 Continues consideration of the billion-dollar tax bill.

Coinage Committee investigates silver.

Interstate Commerce Committee considers railroad holding company regulation.

Military Committee considers Muscle Shoals legislation.

WEDNESDAY.

Senate.
 Debated but did not vote on Democratic emergency road construction bill.

Rejected nomination of Charles A. Jonas, as Federal attorney for Western District of North Carolina.

Secretary Stimson wrote Foreign Relations Committee Senate reservations were embraced in revised World Court protocol.

Banking Committee opened hearings on Glass banking reform bill.

House.
 Passed miscellaneous public lands bills.

Coinage Committee invited opinions from foreign nations on international silver conference.

Women leaders urged constitutional amendment for equal rights before Judiciary Committee.

Peacham—There was the usual large attendance at the annual dinner and church meeting in Peacham. The treasurer announced all expenses paid and a slight balance in the treasury. The Church Aid Society spent during the year, for various improvements, nearly one hundred dollars, and reported a balance in the treasury of something more than one hundred dollars. Supporters of the church have pledged, and for the most part paid over \$4,500.00 toward the local Academy endowment fund, in a little more than two years. The final canvass in July last fell at the time of our heaviest missionary offerings, entailing something of a deficit upon our apportionment. The total shortage, however, amounts to less than forty dollars. There were added twenty persons to the membership of the church, twelve upon confession of faith, and eight by letter. The church voted to increase the pastor's salary by \$150.00.
 C.

In WHITTIER'S *jeu d'esprit*, the Scottish dialect poem elsewhere printed, he handles that picturesque vehicle of poetry as one to the manner born. He hints that there were those then who made mock of his "rhym'n' blether," as well as that of his friend Dinsmoor. Perhaps these people would stare, were they living, to hear of Whittier's getting a cool \$1000 cheque from Robert Bonner's firm, for a ballad, and that he died a rich man, worth from \$70,000 to \$100,000. When great poetry and Quaker thrift meet in one individual, look out for wealth.

How will the gentle Quaker poet at Oak Knoll enjoy his warlike honors? Whittier made a member of the Loyal Legion in times of peace will remind many of his fiery poems during the Mexican war and during the war for the preservation of the Union. It was he who summoned men in '44 to finish what their sires began—

"Speak as well becomes the free."

It was he who in that same year demanded of Massachusetts—

"Shall thy line of battle falter
With its allies just in view?"

But in all his war poems Whittier had firm hope of the larger expediency as well as the righteousness of peace when "evil shall cease and violence pass away."

"After so ripe a life death is not a cause of mourning," wrote ex-Governor Long of our departed Whittier. That sentence well expresses the thought which is foremost in the minds of New Englanders as they read of the simple but impressive obsequies of their loved poet. "Yet," added the ex-Governor, "it touches us with a sense of personal loss." Of that heroic generation which numbered Whittier among its noblest spirits, how few survivors are left!

—The Rev J. G. Davenport spoke feelingly of the life of the late John G. Whittier at the Second church last night. He related the story of his eventful life and told of his sturdy Americanism and love for humanity. "Whittier," he said, "was a man to win our hearts by his personal qualities, a poet to chain our minds by the melody and perfection of his verse, a patriot to stimulate us to love the land and to make it pure and free, a philanthropist moving us to labor for humanity, a Christian ever exalting the love of God and inculcating faith in the infinite goodness." Extracts from the dead poet's works ended the eulogy.

*Whittier
1877*

pieces. in the volume.

FOR EACH MORNING OF THIS WEEK.

MONDAY. "Teach self-denial, and make its practice pleasurable, and you create for the world a destiny more sublime than ever issued from the brain of the wildest dreamer."—Walter Scott.

TUESDAY. "To know a man who can be trusted will do more for one's moral nature than all the books of divinity that were ever written."—Geo. MacDonald.

WEDNESDAY. "What seems to me to grow fairer as life goes by is the love and tenderness of it, the laughter of little children, and the simple talk of the firesides."—Jean Richard Greene.

THURSDAY. "Oh, it is great, and there is no other greatness,—to make some nook of God's creation more fruitful, better, more worthy of God,—to make some human heart a little wiser, manlier, happier, more blessed, less accursed."—Carlyle.

FRIDAY. "My crown is in my heart, not on my head;
Not decked with diamonds and Indian Stones,
Nor to be seen: my crown is called content;
A crown it is that seldom kings enjoy."

SATURDAY. "He is the happiest, be he king or peasant, who finds peace in his home."—Goethe.

Notice for the Calendar should be sent to E. L. Demond, Esq., 217 Main St.