

## Poetry.

## GROWING OLD.

BY SYBIL HARTINGS.

We are growing old, but ah, turn not back  
To gaze on the aere and withered flowers,  
Which show the wild and wintry track  
Of a frigid Pass's enthroned hours.  
Let the snowy flakes in silence fall  
O'er their richest bloom and brightest glow  
For Time's heavy mantle foldeth all  
Of rapt joy and deepest woe.

We are growing old—youth's glory fades  
From out the vale of our distant years!  
The golden light of its sunny glades  
Is dimmed by the mists of gathering tears,  
And the glad old songs are sad and faint,  
Fading through life's chill atmosphere,  
They have won a tone of deep, mystic plaint,  
The monotone of grief and fear.

We are growing old—and cherished friends,  
Like the stricken leaves of autumn, pass,  
With twilight hues their memory blends;  
Shadows are deepening on the grass,  
Which waver o'er their blessed rest;  
And shadows deepened on the sea,  
Where others yet are wildly tost,  
As the veiled years tread silently.

We are growing old—but is it well  
To cling to this thought with vain regret—  
Muffling our hearts in the funeral knell  
Of starry hopes that have sadly set?  
To turn from the radiant skies of even  
With tears for the pale and misty morn—  
Ay, pause at the glorious gates of heaven,  
And sigh for the glory earth has won.

We are growing old—yet, clear and bright,  
O'er all, the bow of promise beards!  
It may be pale to thy earthly sight,  
But it still enolds us—dearest friends!  
We must look upward, higher—higher—  
And far as our morning glance is cast,  
Shall we behold our souls aspire,  
That the Present crowns the Past.

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Dec 25th. 1854.

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Oct. 21. 1854

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Jan. 27. 1855.

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Jan. 13 1855.

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(Signed) THOMAS WESTON.

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