

say this that America is to be congratulated upon owning as hers, in so sound a poet as Whittier, so good and unblemished a man." I. C. Z.

### WHITTIER—THE MAN.

It has been said that "The good alone are great." In the highest sense I presume this is so. When goodness and genius are found in the one person we may be assured that that name is to reach down into the future, and for good. When we become interested in a man's works we are anxious to know something of the man himself. Hence there are two phases of great men which are of interest to us—their works and their lives. With some authors their writings manifest their lives. This is the case with Whittier in an eminent degree. As wife and I were appointed to each write an essay on the poet Whittier we adopted the idea of giving you as best we could, with the limited means we have of obtaining a correct knowledge—"Whittier, the Man" and "Whittier the Poet."

To those of us who are Friends he is an interesting character, but not to us alone. Loyalty and love for the name of Friend may indeed intensify the respect and love which English-speaking people bear him everywhere.

John Greenleaf Whittier was born in a farm house near Haverhill, Mass., 12 mo. 1807. It was the old homestead where several generations of the family, who were Friends, had lived. His education was limited, acquired chiefly in the winter months spending the rest of the year as farmer and shoemaker, writing occasionally, until at the age of 21 he became editor of a Boston newspaper—the *American Manufacturer*. This brought him into notice and he became well-known throughout the country. In 1830 he became editor of the *New England Weekly Review*. In 1833 he wrote an essay, which was his first con-

spicuous effort in the great anti-slavery cause. In 1835 and again in 1836 he sat in the State Legislature as a representative of his native town of Haverhill. In 1838 and '39 he edited the *Philadelphia Freeman*, an anti-slavery paper. Rossetti says: "In those days anti-slavery men needed the courage of heretics, and the constancy of martyrs; if they valued property, limb, or even life more than principal they were not the men for the emergency, and accordingly it was not very long before Whittier's printing office was sacked and burned by a mob." About this time he became one of the secretaries of the Anti-Slavery Society—edited the *Anti-Slavery Reporter*, and later the *Lowell Standard*. He was also corresponding editor of the *National Era*, published at Washington. Throughout all these trying times it has been said "he worked on with cheerful, single-minded boldness and unabated vigor." In 1840 he removed to Amesburg, Mass., where he still lives. Apart from a poet Whittier stands as one of the most prominent actors in the anti-slavery cause. Denouncing in poetry and prose, with an unsparing hand, the iniquitous nature of the traffic in slaves. At a time, too, when to do so was not only unpopular, but dangerous to life and limb. When anti-slavery printing establishments were being mobbed and burned, and when public meetings in favor of the cause were being scattered by mobs and the buildings in which they were held burned to the ground, notably the Hall of Freedom, in Philadelphia, concerning which Channing says: "And this was stormed by a mob; a peaceful assemblage was driven from its walls, and afterwards it was levelled to the earth by fire." He further says: "I doubt whether at that hour there were collected together in any other single spot in the land so many good and upright men and women, so many sincere friends of the race. In that