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EDITORIAL NOTES

THEY issue Sunday newspapers in Vancouver, B.C.

THERE is an immense demand for microscopes, owing to the new type used on the *Toronto Mail*. It is almost "out of sight."

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER was one of the Americans whom we, as Canadians, loved as being one with us, though not of us. We have all been thrilled and charmed by his musical and elevating poetry. Born in 1807, in 1826 he made his first venture in print in the *Newburyport Free Press*. In 1829 he went to Boston as editor of the *American Manufacturer*. In 1830 he was appointed to a more dignified post, in the editor's chair of the *New England Weekly Review*, published at Hartford. In 1832 he came back to his birthplace to edit the *Haverhill Gazette* and to work on his farm. While at Haverhill he was twice elected to the State Legislature. In 1836 he became one of the secretaries of the American Anti-Slavery

society, and removed to Philadelphia, where he conducted the *Freeman*, an anti-slavery paper. In 1840 he removed to Amesbury, and acted as corresponding editor of the *National Era*, printed at Washington. His poetical works during this time had been winning him wide celebrity. He was a strong abolitionist, and attacked slavery with all his might. Up to the present, his life was taken up with writing and publishing his works. He was a poet of the people—the poet of freedom; of the anti-slavery movement; but

Life is indeed no holiday; therein
Are want, and woe, and sin,
Death and its nameless fears, and over all
Our pitying tears must fall.

WHILE we lament the death of the Quaker poet, our sorrow is increased with the knowledge that one of the greatest of modern journalists—George William Curtis—has passed away. Whittier, though a sometime journalist, was dear to us as a poet, while George William Curtis was the noblest soul in the ranks of journalistic writers. Whether we view him as wearing out his precious life in an effort to cancel a debt of sixty thousand dollars, incurred by the failure of Putnam's magazine, or whether we view him as the fearless exponent of what he believed to be just and right, he seems to us a noble being. As an orator, too, he was in the highest rank, and musical and thrilling were the sentences rendered massive by the power of the mind behind them. But these two great minds have ceased to be with us, except in memory and precept; the many hands will wield the facile pen no more, yet their lives were noble, and must live on in the nobility they have stimulated in others.

Too often the editor's remarks are tempered by expediency in the light of certain extraneous circumstances. It is said of the late George William Curtis that on one occasion when, during his absence, a strong utterance of his, a delicate matter, was toned down slightly, he at once resigned upon his return, and he was induced to remain only on condition that his freedom was thenceforth assured. We need more of