

year came the dispute about Missouri, whether it should be admitted to the Union as slave or free, and the point was yielded, upon condition that slavery should not be extended to the westward of it, and north of $36^{\circ} 30'$. Pass on another thirty years, and we see the slave power gaining another step, by the Compromise measure of 1850, in which, under threat of dissolving the Union, they obtained the passing of the Fugitive Slave Law, by which runaway slaves may be apprehended within the free States, thus destroying their independence. At the end of three years more (1853) another step is taken,—the repeal of the very Missouri Compromise is proposed, by which the slave-owners had profited in 1820. So that it would appear that the Government of the Union is not adhering to the policy which the wise foresight of its founders had marked out for it, but is gradually sinking into the hands of the lords of the South, a bold and unscrupulous oligarchy.

Unless the people, that is, the working classes, can be fairly roused to this question, and made aware that the very object and end of slavery is to cheapen and degrade labour, and thus effect the ruin of their class, the cause of liberty is gone.

I went down the Potomac river, or estuary, about seventeen miles, to Mount Vernon, once the residence, and now the tomb of Washington. The house is built of timber, but cut so as to resemble stone, and painted white. It stands upon a rising ground, in a gently-undulating country, from 50 to 100 feet above the level of the river, on the right bank, and fronting the south-east. Two small rooms, hardly