

Poetry.

A SONG OF SPRING.

BY MRS. MARY ANN WHITEHEAD.

The Angel of the beautiful,
Hath raised the wintry veil
From nature's face of loveliness,
And tinged her features pale,
By breathings pure as morning air,
When stirred with early prayer.

The Angel of the Beautiful
Hath wooed her for his bride,
With sweetest tales of mystery,
Till, spell-bound to his side,
Fair nature kneels within her bower,
And loving, joyful, owns his power.

The Angel of the Beautiful
Hath decked his bride with flowers,
And now he leads her lovingly
To greet the rosy hours,
With off rings such as seraphs bring,
To celebrate the birth of Spring.

The Angel of the Beautiful
Hath opened the secret mine,
Where precious gems are glittering,
As stars at midnight shine;
And claimed the brightest, purest, best,
To sparkle on dear Nature's breast.

The Angel of the Beautiful
His chosen one hath taught
To sing glad songs of gratitude,
Which mortal ears have caught;
And thus to man on earth is given
A foretaste of the bliss of Heaven.

Interesting Extract.

NICARAGUA,
AND THE FILLIBUSTERS.

Concluded.

The following article from the *San Francisco Herald* of the 6th of October, gives a very good idea of the popular feeling in favour of Walker, even before the achievement of his success in Granada had become known. The inefficiency of the executive to repress such a wholesale shipment of recruits and arms is also remarkable:—

"THE DEPARTURE OF THE WALKER REINFORCEMENTS FROM SAN FRANCISCO. Exciting scenes along the wharves—Ineffectual attempt of a party to board the steamer in a sailing vessel—Three hundred stand of arms for Walker's army—Proceeding in the Twelfth District Court—The Sheriff's party too late—Incidents, &c.

"The current rumours of the past week relative to the number of adventurers who intended to embark on the steamer *Uncle Sam* to join Walker at Nicaragua, served to attract a large crowd in the vicinity of the steamer on the occasion of her departure yesterday. The vessel was advertised to sail at 9 o'clock, A. M., and long before that hour Jackson Street wharf was filled with spectators and those interested in the embarkation of the Expeditionists. It is stated that nearly 400 through passage tickets were sold before the appointed sailing hour, but, as will be seen, various circumstances compelled the agent of the line to postpone the steamer's departure until 4 o'clock, P. M. Officers were stationed in every part of the vessel, with positive orders to allow no one on board unless provided with a passage ticket. There seemed to be no disposition to infringe this order, and everything went on quietly until about noon, when it was discovered that some of the passengers were in possession of arms belonging to the 'San Francisco Blues' military corps. A search-warrant was immediately procured, and twenty-nine muskets, identified by members of the company named, were recovered. The warrant was executed by a single officer of the police, who received no molestation, but was permitted to make a thorough search of every quarter of the vessel. During this investigation two large crockery crates, full of arms, were discovered, but as the officer had no authority to seize upon those, they were left undisturbed, although information of the fact was immediately given to the Quartermaster, General Kibbe, of the State Militia, who soon after ascertained, by means of the Telegraph Wires, that the armory of the Sacramento rifle company had been entirely divested of every weapon and round of ammunition. General Kibbe at once commenced suit in the Twelfth District Court to recover the arms belonging to the State, on board the *Uncle Sam*. The business of the suit was despatched with all possible haste; but before the necessary documents could be procured, and placed in the hands of the Sheriff, the hour had arrived for the sailing of the steamer. As the lines holding the vessel to the wharf were cast adrift, there was some indication of trouble between the officers of the vessel and those on the wharf anxious to obtain passage. The wharf was

densely packed with men, and as the first move of the steamer's paddles, a general rush was made to board her. The officers of the boat resisted, and the body of the crowd was driven back at the imminent risk of their being crushed between the vessel and the wharf, or launched overboard. The scene was frightful, indeed; but fortunately, and singularly enough, no one sustained serious injury, as far as could be ascertained. About fifteen or twenty succeeded in getting on board, and the vessel shot out into the stream, where she came to, evidently with the view of compelling those to return on shore who had succeeded in boarding the vessel by force. By this time the expeditionists, to the number of three hundred, had chartered a large schooner lying convenient to the wharf. This movement was seen on board the steamer, & as the schooner spread her canvass, the steamer's paddles were again put in motion; but she had not proceeded far when she again lay-to. The schooner was now under full headway with a fine breeze, and tacking quickly, she came up under the lee of the steamer, when she was ordered to keep off, and at the same time the steamer commenced moving ahead. It was now beyond the power of the schooner to work up to the position of the steamer until the latter would have sufficient time to send the intruders ashore, and get under way again. Still the schooner persevered, and stood off for another tack. In the meantime a posse of Sheriff's officers headed by Mr. Dowdigan, with the writ of restitution, had procured a rowboat for the purpose of boarding the steamer. This they were unable to accomplish, as the steamer got under way just as the Sheriff's boat reached her side. The schooner was at this time within a few cables' length of the steamer, but, coming up under the lee of Telegraph Hill, the breeze died away, and all thought of boarding her was at once abandoned, as the steamer was by this time under a full head of steam with her bows directed seaward. The schooner landed the disappointed expeditionists at Jackson Street Wharf; and a large number of ships' launches and other small craft filled with men who evidently intended to take the first opportunity to board the steamer, put back to the shore. It would be useless to attempt a description of the scenes along the wharves. From Jackson Street to North Point, every place of observation was crowded with eager spectators of the movements of the two vessels. It seemed to be the universal expectation that the schooner load would be permitted to board, as it was rumoured that they had obtained passage tickets by some means just as the steamer left the wharf. No foundation for this rumour could be ascertained, and it was undoubtedly erroneous. The city Marshal, with several policemen, remained on the steamer until she was fully under way. Among the number who attempted to board in small boats, was a man named Henry Gray, who strenuously persisted in his endeavours to board the steamer, although forcibly resisted by officer Connelly. At last Gray drew a revolver, and pointed it at the officer, who also drew his pistol, when the boatmen in the boat with Gray covered his person with their own. Gray was subsequently arrested, and placed in confinement. It is generally believed that the *Uncle Sam* carried away about three hundred stand of arms for the use of Walker's army. It is known that a large quantity of arms and ammunition had been purchased in this city to be sent to San Juan by this steamer. Just previous to the sailing of the steamer, it was ascertained that a number of percussion lock muskets, belonging to the Manhattan Fire Company of this city, were taken from the engine house during the night. The rifles taken from the Sacramento military company are said to be excellent weapons, and they will undoubtedly prove a valuable acquisition to the armament of the Nicaragua republic troops. Many of those who failed to procure passage on the steamer yesterday had placed their baggage on board. This baggage will unquestionably be landed at San Juan, and kept for them by their more fortunate comrades until such time as they shall be successful in their endeavours to join Walker."—*San Francisco Herald*, Oct. 6.

This is the way they do things in California, affording a striking contrast to the very imposing demonstration made in New York about two months ago in support of the neutrality laws.

Shortly after the formation of the Walker Government in Granada, a decree was issued, granting two hundred and fifty acres of land to every emigrant who would come and settle on and improve his grant; and in consequence of advertisements to that effect, inserted by the Nicaraguan government in the New York papers, great numbers of men intended sailing for that country in the regular steamer of the Nicaragua Transit Company.

Proclamations were issued by President Pierce, warning the citizens not to violate the neutrality

laws; and when the steamer was on the point of leaving the wharf, the government officers made an attempt to arrest her. The captain, however, disregarded them, and got under way, but was brought up, while steaming down the harbour, by two or three shots from a man-of-war. The steamer was searched, but no evidence of the violation of the laws was found on board of her. The company, however, requested the assistance of the government officers in putting ashore about two hundred men who had not paid their passage. This was done, and the steamer went on her way, carrying two or three officers of government to see whether, on using up the coal, some cannon might not be found at the bottom of the coal bunkers.

At this time, also, Colonel French, who had resigned his seat in the Walker cabinet as Minister of the Hacienda, presented himself at Washington as Minister-plenipotentiary from the State of Nicaragua; but the American government refused to receive him. Colonel Wheeler, the American minister in Nicaragua, had already formally acknowledged the Walker government immediately on its formation, and as he visited Washington in the month of July, it is hardly to be supposed that he would have returned to his duties in Nicaragua, without acquainting himself with the views of his Government on the course to be pursued in event of the success of the Americans in that State. But Colonel Walker had already so firmly established himself in Nicaragua that any want of countenance from the American Government could not weaken his position; the President's message also was soon about to appear, and too cordial an acknowledgment of the Americans in Nicaragua would not have been consistent with the tone observed in that document in regard to the enforcement of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty.

The Mosquito protectorate question is being practically settled by the Mosquitains themselves. Mosquita is a strip of land on the Atlantic coast, part of which has always been claimed by Nicaragua, and which, from its geographical position, seems naturally to belong to her. Since the establishment of peace in that country, the government have sent commissioners among the Mosquito Indians in the neighbouring parts of Mosquita. The natives are reported to have shown dissatisfaction at the exactions of the king, and to have declared their readiness to come under Nicaragua. So the Mosquito kingdom seems likely to revert to Nicaragua, the State to which it originally belonged.

The success which has attended Walker's enterprise offers a strong contrast to the failure of that which, for the attainment of a similar end, was originated in New York towards the end of the year 1854.

A company was started under the name of the Central American Land Colonization Company, or some such name. The ostensible object was the colonization and cultivation of the Mosquito territory, more especially a certain portion known as the "Shepherd Grant," a large tract of land acquired by a Mr. Sheppard from the King of Mosquita. A certain Colonel Kinney took a prominent part in the organization of the Company, which was supported by many capitalists in New York and other cities of the Union. The government also professed to be favourable to the scheme, and preparations were commenced on a large scale for carrying it out. A great deal was said about the promotion of agriculture on the Mosquito coast; but it was pretty generally understood by the public, that the real object in view was to fillibuster the State of Nicaragua, or at all events to establish a depot in that part of the world, from which when all should be ready, a decent upon Cuba might be conveniently made.

At the remonstrances of the Nicaraguan minister in Washington, the administration were compelled to open their eyes to the true nature of the expedition.

A great fuss was then made; proclamations were issued, warning the people not to take part in the hostile invasion of a friendly State; a large steamer, chartered by Colonel Kinney and all ready to take down several hundred agriculturists to cultivate the pestiferous swamps of the King of Mosquita, was seized by the authorities; several men of war were stationed in New York harbour to watch her, and Colonel Kinney himself was arrested and held to bail.

Many of the supporters of the enterprise now withdrew; but Kinney was not to be deterred; and as he could not go to his steamer with several hundred followers, he modestly started, about the month of May, in a small schooner with a couple of dozen men. He was wrecked somewhere about the West Indies, and was finally brought into Greytown, his original destination, by an English brig, which had picked him and his party off the rocks.

About this time the Accessory Transit Company of Nicaragua raised a little army in New York, on their own account, of fifty men, principally French and German. These they sent down in one of their steamers to Nicaragua, and stationed at Castillo, on the San Juan River, there to stop the advance of foreign invaders. This is the French legion referred to in the treaty of peace.

It was given out that Kinney and his small party were only the pioneers; that reinforcements were coming from New Orleans and other ports, but they have never yet made their appearance; and Kinney and his men still remain in Greytown, where with the exception of starting a newspaper, they have as yet done nothing.

This Walker business in Nicaragua has been much more cleverly managed. The Americans in that country appear in the light of men who have gone there at the request of a party which constituted the majority of the people. They became citizens of the State, fought for it, and have risen to power.

The United States have themselves been to a certain extent fillibustered in the same way. The Irish party has of late become so formidable, that the native Americans have had to form a league to counteract the Irish influence; and even if the American Government were opposed to the present movement in Nicaragua, they cannot prevent individual citizens from emigrating to, and becoming citizens of that State.

It cannot be doubted that the advantages to Nicaragua, in consequence of the introduction of American influence, will be very great.

The constant fear of revolution being removed, the people will have more confidence in carrying out agricultural and commercial undertakings. The Americans will do away with all the antiquated absurdities of Spanish law, and amend a ridiculous old tariff, whereby many of the commonest articles of civilized life have been virtually prohibited; foreign capital will be freely employed in the cultivation of sugar, rice, tobacco, indigo, and other valuable crops, in the production of which Nicaragua can compete with any country in the world; and the resources of the mining districts will be developed by energetic and experienced miners from California.—*Blackwood's Magazine*.

SLIGHTLY EMBARRASSING.—A young lawyer, residing at M——, in this State, seeing to be extra polite to a very pretty, young and interesting woman on the cars, a few evenings since, took her infant to hold, while she stepped forward to see to her baggage; the train started and the lady was left. The youthful blackstone was in a fix. He left the cars at M——, with infant-ry at a full shoulder, and proceeded to the gate of his law partner, where he set up a vociferous howling—He dared not go further, for the gentleman of the house had a cross bulldog, so he stood there in the winter midnight wind, and howled for his partner to chain up the dog, and come out and help him nurse the child.—*Detroit Advocate*.

A young attorney lately attempted to quiz a country parson, who used a large snuff box. 'Parson,' said the limb of the law, 'your box is large enough to hold the freedom of the corporation.' 'Sir,' retorted the clergyman, 'it will hold any freedom but yours.'

A HOME THRUST.—A Rev. Dean, economical of his wine, descending on the extraordinary performance of a blind man, remarked that the poor fellow could see no more than 'one bottle.' 'No wonder, sir,' replied a minor canon; 'for I have seen no more than one bottle all the afternoon.'

If a tallow candle be placed in a gun, and shot at a door, it will go through without sustaining any injury; and if a musket-ball be fired into water, it will not only rebound, but be flattened as if fired against a solid substance.

An Englishman and a German were travelling together in a diligence, and both smoking. The German did all in his power to draw the Englishman into conversation, but to no purpose; at one moment he would apologise for drawing his attention to the fact that the ash of his cigar had fallen on his waistcoat, or a spark was endangering his neckerchief. At length the Englishman exclaimed:—'Why the deuce can't you let me alone? Your coat-tail has been burning for the last ten minutes, but I did not bother you about it!'

A COSTLY NEST.—One of the leading merchants of Galt, last week discovered beneath his counter, behind some articles seldom required, a \$4 bill, partially destroyed, as if gnawed. Further search was made, and a \$2 note found, and a place of rendezvous having been discovered, a mouse's nest was found composed principally of \$4 notes.—*Canadian paper*.