

# CHRISTIAN



# VISITOR.

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REV. E. D. VERY,

"BY PURENESS, BY KNOWLEDGE—BY LOVE UNFEIGNED."—ST. PAUL.

EDITOR.

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[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

## MARCH.

The bright sun burns in the glowing sky,  
For the time of leaves is drawing nigh:  
I feel it, as, with music tone,  
The breath of the soft wind floateth lone.  
O'er the brilliant face of the drifted snow  
That air hath diffused a softening glow,  
And the vaulted cope is pure and clear  
As the chastest gem, or Affection's tear.

Old and gray hangs the mighty wood,  
Lock'd in ice rolls the summer flood,  
The rivulet moans not in the vale,  
No warbler is telling its minstrel tale:  
Yet a glory, a love, a heart-felt bliss  
Pervades the shadowy wilderness,  
It floats from the rocks of glittering snow,  
It falls from heaven to the hills below:  
And the frost-smit earth is no longer sear,  
For the time of leaves is drawing near.

N.

[From the Waterbury American.]

## THE WORLD HARVEST.

Editor American—The following beautiful and expressive lines appeared originally in the Albany Journal. The first and last two stanzas were quoted by the Rev. Mr. Storrs at the close of his late lecture in this city, on the Legacies of the Past. Yours truly,  
New Haven, Feb., 1852. G. L. T.

### THE WORLD HARVEST.

They are sowing their seed in the daylight fair,  
They are sowing their seed in the noon day's glare;

They are sowing their seed in the soft twilight,  
They are sowing their seed in the solemn night.  
What shall the harvest be?

They are sowing their seed of pleasant thought,  
In the spring's green light they have blightly wrought;

They have brought their fancies from wood and dell,  
Where the mosses creep and the flower-buds swell.

Rare shall the harvest be.

They are sowing their seed of word and deed,  
Which the cold know not nor the careless heed;

Of the gentle word and the kindest deed,  
That have blessed the heart in its sorest need.  
Sweet shall the harvest be.

And some are sowing the seed of pain,  
Of late remorse and a maddened brain;  
And the stars shall fall, and the sun shall wane,  
'Ere they root the weeds from the soil again.

Dark will the harvest be.

And some are standing with idle hand,  
Yet they scatter seed on their native land;  
And some are sowing the seed of care,  
Which their soil hath bore and still must bear.

Sad will the harvest be.

They are sowing their seed of noble deed,  
With a sleepless watch and earnest heed;  
With a ceaseless hand o'er the earth they sow,  
And the fields are whitening where'er they go.

Rich will the harvest be.

Sown in darkness, or sown in light,  
Sown in weakness, or sown in might,  
Sown in meekness, or sown in wrath,  
In the broad work-field or the shadowy path—

Sure will the harvest be.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

BY DR. BAIRD.

Dr. Baird delivered his lecture on the history, progress, and present position of the Bri-

tish Empire, on the 4th inst., before a large audience, at the Female Academy, Brooklyn. He commenced his remarks by alluding to the wonderful progress made by the Scandanavian nations in civilization, commerce and manufactures, within the last two hundred years, and instanced the case of France, which, since 1789, had increased from 28 to 36 million in population. The islands of Great Britain and Ireland, taken both together, are not as large as France by one-half, yet the population, including the isles on the Scottish coast, and those in the British Channel, amounts to between 27 and 28 million of inhabitants at the present time, though the population of Ireland has diminished during the past six years, one million and a half, by famine, pestilence, and emigration to other countries, but chiefly to the United States.—The population of the whole realm is, however, nearer to 160 than to 150 millions. The earliest periods of this island being inhabited are not known; but probably only a few years after the deluge had elapsed before some of the descendants of Noah had crossed from Asia Minor and made this country their own. Long before the Romans had abandoned England, Christianity had been brought there. St. Paul is said to have visited the Island, but this he doubted. There is no doubt, however, but that other missionaries of the Cross had carried Christianity there in the first century, for history makes mention of several eminent Christians of that period. Some people seem to confound the second rise of England in Christianity with Augustine, after it had been down some five hundred years, but there were others who came from Wales and Scotland to spread the truths of the Gospel: and what is most remarkable of all, Christian missionaries came also from Ireland: and it is not without reason that the Irish boast, that they had more civilization and Christianity, at that period, than their neighbors. The history of the Danish dynasty, and the invasion of William the Conqueror, in the year 1066, and the death of Harold at the battle of Hastings, were then touched on. William came, he said, with sixty thousand men, conquered the country with ease, and divided it, with the exception of Wales, between his followers, reduced the natives to the capacity of serfs, and completely changed the character of the people, so that whatever energy they possess now, or indomitable courage they owe to him. After him reigned four monarchs who were called Norman Kings. It was in his reign that the custom, which is found in parts of France and the New England States even at this day, of putting out the fires about nine o'clock in the evening, at the ringing of a bell, was first introduced. Hence the origin of the word curfew, from the Norman or French words "couver feu," "cover," or "put out the fire."—They have that custom still in Normandy, and at Rouen is shown an archway, once a part of the wall that surrounded the city, over which is a tower with a belfry, the bell of which, they say, has been ringing from the time of William the Conqueror to the present time. Civilization began to advance. The whole country, Wales and Ireland, were soon brought under the government of England, and in the time of King John, the Magna Charter was granted in the small meadow of Runnymede, in the year 1215. Liberty also progressed with rapid strides, taking her origin here, as in other countries—in the villages, towns and cities, where the mechanic, the farmer and the merchant used to congregate, and form themselves into societies or guilds for their mutual welfare.

The Empire is an immense one. It has now one hundred and twenty-millions of subjects, directly or indirectly, in India. By discovery it has obtained vast possessions in New-

Holland, New-Zealand and Van Dieman's Land, and by treaty it has obtained the Cape of Good Hope, and the Southern portion of Africa from the Dutch. But it is a great pity that she did not hold on to the valuable islands of Java and Sumatra, instead of giving them up at the treaty of Vienna in 1814, notwithstanding all that has been said of them by Sir Stamford Raffles, who wrote to Lord Castlereagh in opposition to the measure. After the suicide of this statesman, these letters were found sealed, showing how careless in business was that great man, and also showing that after the struggle was over, England scarcely obtained a half of what she had laid out in interfering with foreign powers, to overthrow one tyrant for no other purpose, as he could see, but to make room for others. She has a vast debt to pay in consequence of this effort, but after all she is the most powerful country in the world, and together with our nation, these United States, governs more than one-fourth of the Globe, and nearly one-sixth part of the human race. It is a wonderful thing to think that these little islands, (pointing to the map of the British Isles,) and this country, settled by England, should now govern so large a portion of mankind, and have before them such a glorious prospective. What an immense progress her civilization has made. If you look at her country, it is like a garden.—England has three times the population that she had in the time of Elizabeth, because of her increased agriculture and the application of science to it, which is now going on to a greater extent than in any other part of the world, and though there is a great deal of land still to be improved, soon she may be able to subsist fifty millions of people. Then her commerce, how great is it! If you go to Liverpool you will see an immense number of ships congregated from all parts of the earth, occupying six or eight large docks which have been formed by huge walls, erected to cut off a part of the river. As to the coasting trade, you will see the magnitude of that in London, that immense city, destined before this century is out to have without doubt four millions of inhabitants. There the new houses, with beautiful gardens, are constantly springing up towards the suburbs, so that when you take an omnibus and ride out, you scarcely tell when you leave the city. Then the streets are well paved, the police are most effective, and every thing is well-regulated, far different from what it is in Broadway, New-York. We are not averse to imitating foreigners, but it would be well if we should imitate them in their best qualities, and not their bad ones. If the conscript Fathers of New York would send a deputation from their body to London, for the purpose of seeing how that city is paved, how they manage their omnibusses, or 'busses as they call them, and cabs, it might be the means of introducing here something like the order and effective system that reigns there. The lecturer here pointed out on the large map the principal "lions" that arrest the attention of travellers visiting London. It was in fact a bird's eye view of the immense labyrinth of streets, houses, and monuments. First, he showed where the docks lay, then the Tower full of the reminiscences of the past, and where still is showed the cells of many a State prisoner, who had to march thence to the scaffold. The last person of any note imprisoned there was Sir Francis Burdett. At a distance from this was the Monument commemorative of the great fire. Next followed in order, the Exchange, the Post-Office, more like a palace than a place of business, St. Paul's Church, Whitehall Palace, Downing-street, and its vicinity, where stand the different offices belonging to the Government, the Parliament Houses, Westminster Abbey, the Palace of King James, (an old brick building,) Buck-

ingham Palace, where the Queen lives, Green Park, and the spot there where Sir Robert Peel was thrown from his horse, Regent's Park, and the other breathing spots of the great city; the Museum, with its magnificent library, and antiquities of Nineveh, disintombed by Layard; the different railroads, six in number; the site of the Crystal Palace, and other objects of interest. It is wonderful, continued the rev. gentleman, how things have advanced in England. As to its wealth it is almost incredible. The Bank is regulated by a cautious spirit. From the charter received since the year 1694 to the present one, it can lend no more money than it has bullion in its vaults, and Government securities. There are generally about seventeen millions of bullion, and ten or eleven millions of government securities possessed by it, and it can therefore lend twenty-eight million of pounds sterling. Some years since it had to violate its charter, in consequence of the great pressure in monetary matters, and they had to call Parliament together in order to give them leave to lend money on credit. It certainly would be better to have security like that, than to have Banks like our own, which lend more than they really possess, so that when a crash comes, all would have to go to the wall. After giving an account of the operations in the Private Banks of London, he said that England rules the monetary world, and this little Island has an influence now, that neither Balbec, Nineveh, Rome, nor Tyre had ever possessed. He did not believe that England had reached the acme of her prosperity. She has undoubtedly a large debt, but she is better able to bear it, than she could 200 millions some years ago. The interest will reduce it down to almost nothing. It is a burden, but it will have a beneficial effect, as it will keep her from going to war. But if anything arise, involving the honour or glory of England, you will see what she will do. Railroads are making a great change, causing as they do a more complete fusion of the races. The time will come when those who speak the Welch, the Gaelic and the Irish languages will be fused into one homogeneous mass, and railroads will expedite this result. England has made more changes within the last twenty years, and reforms, as they are called. That which Lord John Russell designs for extending the right of suffrage to the people will do a great deal of good.—But England must learn to make the Irish people friendly with her Government, and if the Queen will visit that country as often as she now visits Scotland, and other portions of her dominions, and if the parliament meets occasionally in Dublin, it will go far to reconcile the people of both countries. The people of Ireland are broken down by famine and emigration, and there is now the same feeling that there was fifteen years ago. The time is over for the Irish ever to try to throw off the yoke of England. It is entirely out of the question; for before they would have time to rise, or procure arms, an army would be sent against them that would overwhelm them. They should treat the Irish with respect and endeavor to put them in possession of their rights, and incorporate them with the other portions of the people. He was not one of those who think that England had seen her best days.—There is a good deal in the English people that he liked. John Bull is a very remarkable animal. It has taken a great deal to make him. The Celtic, Roman, Saxon, Danish and Norman blood courses in his veins, and he shows it in his face, which is as round as a full moon, but whether caused by his indulging in roast beef and quaffing strong beer, he did not know. They worship three idols, Rank, Fortune and Fashion, with an idolatry not to be surpassed; but their patriotism is unquestioned. He never saw anything like