

**THE ANTI-SLAVERY
PAPERS OF JAMES
RUSSELL LOWELL. VOL. II**

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The anti-slavery papers of James Russell Lowell. Vol. II by James Russell Lowell

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JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL

**THE ANTI-SLAVERY
PAPERS OF JAMES
RUSSELL LOWELL. VOL. II**

THE ANTI-SLAVERY PAPERS OF
JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL

IN TWO VOLUMES

II

Lowell James Russell 1819-1861

**THE ANTI-SLAVERY
PAPERS OF
JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL**

II



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ANTI-SLAVERY PAPERS

THE COURSE OF THE WHIGS

THERE is no need of any speculation as to the course which the Whigs, as Whigs, will take in regard to the measures in which the question of slavery is involved. The result of the late presidential election defines their position. After the bargain by which they gained the victory, there is no more free agency left them than the Constitution left to the Northern States when the compromises were once assented to. They have placed themselves in a disgraceful dilemma, and have only a choice of treacheries offered them. They must either betray Party or Man. In such a position men are apt to be decided in their course by the nearness and appreciability of the retribution which is to follow, or by the chances of tangible reward. If the Whigs act up to their Northern professions, the immediate disruption of the party will be the sure result. An opposition may combine a great many discordant political elements and various shades of opinion, but a triumphant party can only reap the fruits of victory by compactness and the sacrifice of individual interests to the imperative necessity of union.