A decorative border with intricate floral and scrollwork patterns surrounds the text. The border is composed of a central horizontal line with diamond-shaped ornaments, and vertical lines with similar ornaments, all connected by ornate floral flourishes at the corners and midpoints.

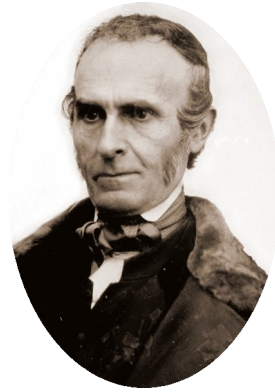
John Greenleaf Whittier was the son of Quaker farmers in Massachusetts. He did not have the opportunity for a long, formal education, but that did not discourage his love of learning. He studied the Scottish poet Robert Burns, and the poems he read about everyday life in the country greatly influenced John's early works.

His first publication came at nineteen when a poem he wrote was published by the abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison in the *Newburyport Free Press*. John and Garrison became friends, and John later did much writing for the cause of abolishing slavery. He has even been called the "Poet Laureate of Abolition," and he used his words to touch people's hearts and stir them to abolish slavery.

From 1843 until about 1865, Whittier wrote a large number of poems including *Voices of Freedom*, *Songs of Labor*, and *Home Ballads and Poems*. One of the most memorable lines ever written is found in his poem "Maud Muller," in which he writes, "Of all sad words of tongue and pen / The saddest are these, 'it might have been.'"

The later years of his life, from 1866 until his death in 1892 are referred to as his "Quaker poet" period." During this time he wrote poems including *Snow-Bound* and collections of poems such as *The Tent on the Beach*, *Among the Hills*, and *The Pennsylvania Pilgrim*. By the time of his death, he was widely respected by his literary peers and the people of both America and England. Some of his poems are still sung as church hymns today.

On the following pages you will find a timeline of John Greenleaf Whittier's life and a notebooking page. Do some research into the life and work of John Greenleaf Whittier and record your observations as you look more closely at the life of this famous author. For printable timeline cards to accompany your study, visit WriteBonnieRose.com.



Handwriting practice lines consisting of 15 horizontal lines spaced evenly down the page.

John Greenleaf Whittier

Timeline

John Greenleaf Whittier was born	1807
1830	
	1831
1834	
	1856
1866	
	1872
1888-1889	
	1892

Elected to the Massachusetts legislature

Published *The Pennsylvania Pilgrim*

editor of the *New England Weekly Review* in Hartford, Connecticut

Died in Hampton Falls, Mass.

Published his first book of prose and verse, *Legends of New England*

Houghton Mifflin Co. issues a definitive edition of his poetry and prose in 7 volumes

Published "Maud Muller"

Wrote "Snow-Bound" his best known poem

Answer Key

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