



# *Their Finest Hour: The 1849 Roman Republic and the US*

John Cabot  
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# Giuseppe Mazzini

- ***“The Republic is first of all a principle of love, of improved civilization, of brotherly progress...it’s the principle of good over evil, of common law over the tyranny of the few, of Saint Equality over Privilege and Despotism.”***



# The Revolutions of 1848

- Uprisings in Sicily, Piedmont, Venice
- The “Statuto Albertino”
- The Roman Republic
- The First Italian War of Independence
- Manifest Destiny
- Wilmot Proviso
- The Mexican-American War

The path to unification begins in Italy

The road to disunion is open in the U.S.

# The disillusion of 1848

- **“My country is at present spoiled by prosperity, stupid with the lust of gain, soiled by crime in its willing perpetuation of slavery, shamed by an unjust war, noble sentiment much forgotten even by individuals, the aims of politicians selfish or petty, the literature frivolous and venal.” (M. Fuller, April 1848)**

# Margaret Fuller 1848

- **“My friends write to urge my return, they talk of our country as the land of the future. It is so, but that spirit which made it all it is of value in my eyes, which gave me all hope with which I can sympathize for that future, is more alive here at present than in America.”**  
(April 1848)

# Nicholas Brown III

- “I thought it my duty as an American citizen to do homage to the principle of popular sovereignty of which our glorious republic is the living incarnation”

- February 1849



# April 1849

- Lewis Cass Jr. arrives in Rome as new chargé:  
From initial diffidence to sympathy.  
His attempt to act as a mediator.



# The New York Daily Tribune June 23, 1849

- *“The work is done, the revolution in Italy is now radical, nor can it stop till Italy become independent and united as a republic. Protestant she already is.”*

Margaret Fuller



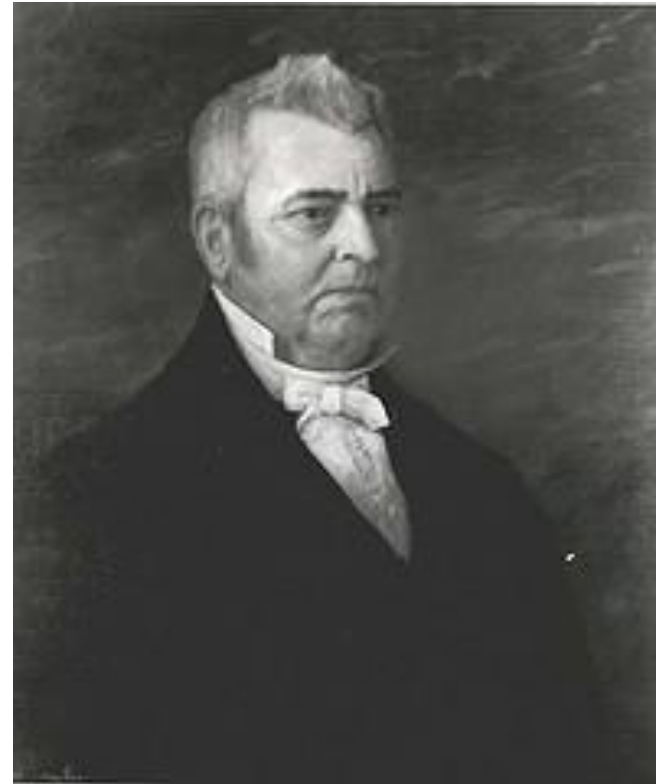
# From Polk to Taylor 1849

- Secretaries of State:

James Buchanan



John Clayton





# An ambivalent approach

- In the Spring of 1849, the Department of State moves toward the idea of letting the new chargé decide whether to recognize the Republic. The dispatch arrives after the fall of the Republic.

# The Defense of the Republic May-June 1849

- The  
Janiculum



# Porta San Pancrazio

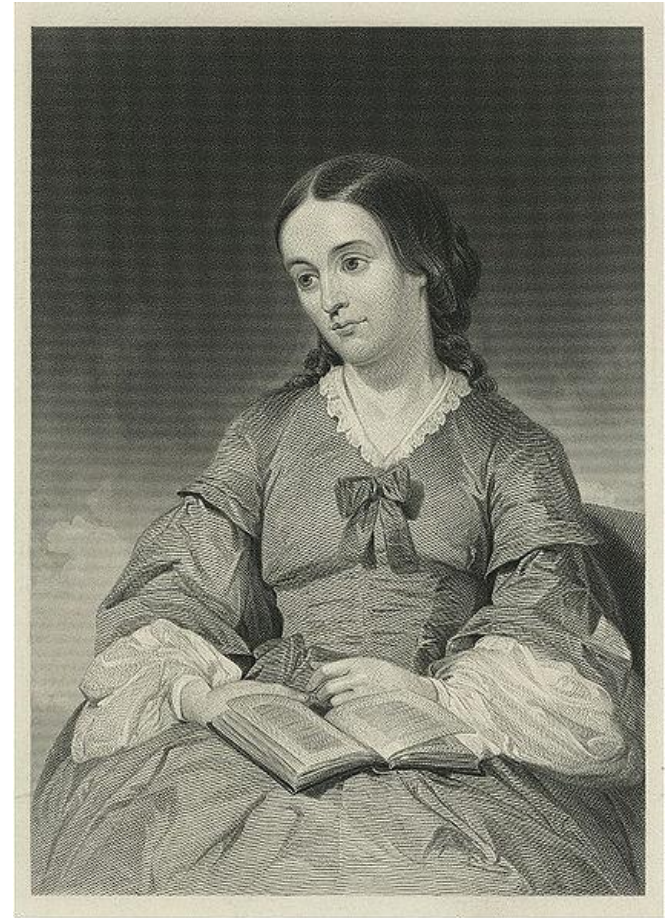


# The hospitals and the women



■ Cristina Trivulzio di Belgiojoso

Margaret Fuller



# The Defense of “Il Vascello” and the Fall of Rome



IN MEMORY OF  
**MARGARET · FULLER · OSSOLI**  
BORN IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS., MAY 23, 1810

BY BIRTH A CHILD OF NEW ENGLAND  
BY ADOPTION A CITIZEN OF ROME  
BY GENIUS BELONGING TO THE WORLD

IN YOUTH  
AN INSATIATE STUDENT SEEKING THE HIGHEST CULTURE

IN RIPER YEARS  
TEACHER, WRITER, CRITIC OF LITERATURE AND ART

IN MATURER AGE  
COMPANION AND HELPER OF MANY  
EARNEST REFORMER IN AMERICA AND EUROPE

AND OF HER HUSBAND  
**GIOVANNI ANGELO, MARQUIS OSSOLI**

HE GAVE UP RANK, STATION AND HOME  
FOR THE ROMAN REPUBLIC  
AND FOR HIS WIFE AND CHILD

AND OF THAT CHILD  
**ANGELO EUGENE PHILIP OSSOLI**  
BORN IN RIETI, ITALY, SEPT. 5, 1848  
WHOSE DUST REPOSES AT THE FOOT OF THIS STONE

THEY PASSED FROM THIS LIFE TOGETHER  
BY SHIPWRECK JULY 19, 1850



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Small white card with text, likely a dedication or historical note, placed at the base of the gravestone.