

## Liberty and Justice

11 July 2022

Someone should tell New England  
that God has not made up his mind  
about how to best organize life,  
nor should we, being free.  
But why freedom? What do we achieve  
in that ecstasy known by frontiersman,  
and by them alone? The achievement  
is justice, though fleeting it be,  
and it is not your grandfather's justice.  
Then liberty, justice, and us here and now,  
in the swirling of time, decide once and for all  
(not for long) how life *is*, what it *is*,  
and shall be. But how *free* shall we be?  
Free enough to revisit these questions  
posed back at the start, and all answers so far,  
with an eye to revision, but not revolution,  
assuming no violence is warranted, knowing  
that violence can never be totally barred,  
for it comes from a failure to question in depth  
and in time. So let's question. Thoreau  
may have been on to something, and so we may be,  
if we ask ever deeper what meaning dwells here,  
where we are. What is Liberty? Why it *and* Justice?  
Could either *be* without the other?