

Mr. J. Parkinon

The Weekly Observer

BEING A CONTINUATION OF THE STAR: ESTABLISHED IN 1818.

SAINT JOHN, TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1831.

Office in HARVEY'S Brick Building, Market Square.

The Garland.

LINES.

Addressed by the Poet to his Daughter.

[From Southey's Tale of "Pargany."]

How have I dated on thine infant smiles At morning, when thine eyes unsealed on mine; How, as the months in swift succession rolled, I watch'd thy beauty's faculties unfold, And watch'd the dawning of the light divine: And with what ardour of parental bliss, Won from thy lips with still repeated smiles Kiss after kiss, a reckoning often told,— Something I never thought of, for thou hast seen Thy lot in their lot, such fondness prove, And felt how childhood in its smiling years, The attempted toll to tenderness can move, This thou canst tell; but not the hopes and tears With which a parent's heart doth overflow— The thoughts and cares inwoven with that love— Its ardour and its depth thou dost not know, nor know The years which since the birth have passed away May well to thy young retrospect appear A moment's extent—like yesterday To me, as soon they fill'd their short career, Thy face discourse of reason have they brought, With sense of time and change; and something, too, Of this precarious state of things have taught, Where man's death never in one stay; And of mortality, a mournful thought, And I have seen thine eyes suffus'd in grief, When I have said that with Attendant Grief The touch of old age marked the father's head; That even the longest day of life is brief, And mine is falling fast into the yellow leaf, Thy happy nature from the painful thought With instant tears, and scarcely canst thou bear To hear me name the grave; thou knowest not How large a portion of my heart is there! The faces which I loved in infancy Are gone; and bloom and friends of ripen age, With whom I gladly talk'd of years to come, Summ'd up before me to their heritage, Are in the better world, beyond the tomb, And I have brethren there, and sisters dear, And dearer babes, whose life needs must dwell Open in thought with those whom still I love so well, Thus wilt thou feel in thy mature mind; When grief shall be thy portion, thou wilt find Safe consolation in such thoughts as these— A present refuge in affliction's hour, And if indulgent Heaven thy lot should bless With all imaginable happiness, Here shalt thou have, my child, beyond all power Of chance, joy, holiest, surest, best delight, Take therefore now thy father's latest lay— Perhaps his last—and treasure in thine heart The feelings that its meaning strains convey; A song it is of life's departing day, Yet meant for youth, vain passions to excite No strains of morbid sentiment I sing, Nor tell of idle loves with ill-assorted breath; A reverent offering to the grave I bring, And twine a garland for the brow of Death.

[The following elegant little effusion, from the pen of the late SELLER DONOVAN, Esq., was occasioned by his seeing two young ladies looking in a garden, and was found next day deposited in a bed of flowers.—Zm. paper.]

SWEET playful sisters—wins of joy! Pure hearts, with guiltless pleasure beating; May fate withhold no blissful ally, Nor cloud the waves of youth so fleeting: While pleas'd I see those cherub forms, This gambol innocently sportive, I breathe a prayer that no rude storms May smother their budding hopes afloat. Happy the favour'd youth for whom Alone those lips shall smile so brightly! For them life's gayest flowers shall bloom, For them will gladness beam most brightly, Life's a wild time! but stopp'd with you, 'T would move to notes of livelier measure; And heavy care would alter too, Or take the silken wings of pleasure! Who, that enjoy'd your cherub smiles, Would care a fig for fortune's frowning? Who would not covet cares and toils, Which you with such rewards were crowning? When grief shall come, be bolding on me, The genial stream of life coagulating, Yet, smiling charms, only can Restore the frozen heart to feeling.

MISCELLANEA.

THE SOLAR ECLIPSE OF FEBRUARY NEXT.—The American Almanac just published, contains a great variety of calculations relative to the great solar eclipse which will be visible throughout the United States on the 12th of February next. These calculations exhibit very minutely the path of the central eclipse, and of several of the digits, and the phases of the eclipse at a large number of places in the United States. The path of the eclipse is still more clearly marked out upon a map of the United States, attached to the Almanac for that purpose. The central eclipse will enter the United States from Mexico, and will pass through the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, the north part of Georgia and South-Carolina, and the southern parts of Virginia and Maryland; thence proceeding along the Atlantic at a distance of 50 or 60 miles from Long Island, it will pass through the southeastern part of the island of Nantucket, and thence to Halifax in Nova Scotia. The unobscured part of the sun will present an annular appearance in all places within 35 miles on each side of this track, and the ring will become more or less uniform in proportion as the place is nearer to the central track. The duration of the annular eclipse, in places where it is central, will be a little over two minutes. The path of the annular eclipse, will extend to the town of Chatham in the county of Bristol, but to no other part of the continent in the New-England States, and to no part of the Middle States except the southern extremity of New-Jersey and Delaware. At Siscoonet, in Nantucket, where the eclipse will be central, the ring will be formed at 11.25m. 20s. and will be broken at 11.25m. 21s. Digits eclipsed 14d. 11m. 42s.—Boston Daily Ad.

MANUMISSION.—A return has been made to the governor of Dominica, exhibiting a list of 600 manumissions, between the 1st of January, 1825, and the 1st of August 1830; and of which 181 have been by government; 119 by bequest; and only six by purchase.

RESTORATION OF THE JEWS.—The chamber of deputies of France have agreed by 211 votes to 71, to take into pay the Jewish ministers of worship.

GRANDEUR OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

The population of Great Britain, at the census in 1811, was 11,800,000, exclusive of the army, then about 50,000. From the returns, so far as published, under the present census, it appears the increase is about fifteen per cent. This will make the population of Great Britain at present to be quite 14,000,000 of souls. Ireland contains 6,500,000 people, the population of the British dominions in Europe 20,000,000. The population of our North American possessions cannot be less than 1,500,000; the population in the West Indian colonies 900,000; Africa, about 13,000,000 in the Mediterranean, 150,000; colonies and dependencies in Asia, 2,000,000; and our other extensive territories in the East Indies, perhaps 70,000,000 souls. The whole population of the British Empire will, at that rate, contain 95,220,000 of souls. The Russian, the next highest in the scale of civilized nations, contains 50,000,000;—France, 30,000,000; and Austria an equal number. The Roman Empire, in all its glory, contained 120,000,000, one-half of whom were slaves. When we compare its situation with that of the British Empire, wealth, resources and industry, in the arts, sciences, commerce and agriculture, the preponderance of Great Britain in the scale of nations and empires is great and most remarkable. The tonnage employed in the merchant service is about 2,500,000 tons for Great Britain; the exports £51,000,000 (including 11,000,000 foreign and colonial); the imports, £35,000,000. The navy during the last war consisted of one thousand British ships of war; the seamen at present in the merchant service are about 174,000; the net revenue of the State £97,000,000. The capital of the Empire contains 1,200,000 persons, which Rome contained in her greatest strength. The value fixed on landed property in Great Britain, as calculated by Mr. Pitt, in 1797, £1,600,000,000, and it may now be fairly reckoned at £2,000,000,000. The cotton manufactures of the country are immense, and reach in the exports to £20,000,000, or one-half the whole. In short, taking every thing into consideration, the British Empire, in power and strength, may be stated as the greatest that ever existed on earth, as it far surpasses them in knowledge, moral character, and worth. On her dominions the sun never sets; before his evening rays leave the spires of Quebec, his morning beams have shown three hours on Port Jackson, and while sinking from the waters of Lake Superior, his eye opens upon the mouth of the Ganges.

LORD BROUGHAM'S FAMILY.—An account of the family of Lord Brougham has run the round of the London Journals, copied from the Leeds Intelligencer, which contains nearly as many errors as it contains lines. Henry, Lord Brougham, is the eldest son of a gentleman of small fortune, but ancient family, (the Chancellor had, we believe, a late claim as heir-general to the Barony of Vaux, and hence his creation by that title), in Cumberland. His mother was the daughter of a Scotch clergyman; in the mention of whose widow, on the Castle Hill of Edinburgh, the father of Lord Brougham lodged when prosecuting his studies at the University there. Chambers, the laborious topographical historian of the Modern Athens, says that Lord Brougham was born in St. Andrew's square, in that City, though we have heard this disputed. The family of the late Mr. Brougham consisted of four sons;—Henry; John, an extensive wine-merchant in Edinburgh, who died at Boulogne about eighteen months ago; James, the Canary Brewer, who sat with Baron Abercromby in the last Parliament for Tregony, and sits at present for Clane; and William, who is, we believe, an Equity Draughtsman—he is noticed as such in the Law List.* Lord Brougham sat first for Camelford, afterwards for Winchester, then for Knaresborough, and lastly for Yorkshire.—It is an instructive example of the working of our admirable system of representation, that up to the 13th of last October, Henry Brougham, the greatest orator and statesman that perhaps ever enlightened Parliament, was lodged for his seat to the patronage of a rough-holding Peer. In 1812, he contested Liverpool with Mr. Canning, and failed; in the same year he was nominated, as we have elsewhere noticed, for the Inverkeithing district of burghs, and failed there also. In 1818 he contested Westmoreland, with the Lowthers; and again in 1826, but unsuccessfully in both instances.—Lord Brougham was originally a Scotch barrister, and practised for some time in the Supreme Court there. It was while at the Scotch bar, that, in conjunction with the late Mr. Francis Hunter and Mr. Joliffe he planned and established the celebrated Edinburgh Review, of which he was for many years a most able and constant supporter. Lord Brougham married, in 1816, Mary Anne, a daughter of John Spalding, Esq. of Holme, in Gallowayshire; by whom we believe he has had two children, a boy and a girl. Lady Brougham's maiden name is Eden; she is a near kinswoman of the Auckland and Huddell families. At her marriage with Mr. Spalding, in 1818, she was accounted an extremely beautiful young woman, and she was still possessed of great personal charms at the period of her second union. Lady B. had by her former marriage a son, who inherits his father's estate, and is an officer in the army, and a daughter. Lord Brougham is, we believe, about fifty years of age.—London Spectator.—[* Mr. William Brougham is a pleader of considerable talent, who will probably obtain in time nearly as high a reputation at the Bar as his brother Henry, the present Lord Chancellor.]

The population of New Orleans, agreeably to the late census, is 48,737. In 1820 it was 27,000,—increase, 21,737.

ARDENT SPIRITS.

Whisky, brandy, rum, hollands, gin, spirits of wine, are comprehended under the name "ardent spirits." To those, except when used medicinally, every well-wisher to his fellow-creatures must have a decided dislike. They have been the nourisher of every vice—the destroyer of every virtue; they merely excite without strengthening; they inflame, without preserving the warmth of excitement; they excite, but not for a continuance; they produce a war of passions without the peace of temperance, as a consequence. Brandy is a good medicine.—Many dyspeptics, whose food does not digest, very often experience considerable relief from the use of brandy and water in small quantities. Brandy, too, is a good stimulant in cases of typhus fever, when the powers of the system are almost exhausted—acting here even better than wine. Rum is also useful medicinally. Gin is still more useful. The juniperberry, to which gin owes its peculiar flavour, is a diuretic, acting upon the kidneys, and promoting the discharge of urine. Hence the practice among persons afflicted with gravel of taking gin; a practice which, though attended with benefit when followed up with moderation, becomes a vice when the affection of the kidneys becomes an excuse for an affliction for the gin. In favour of whisky the drunkards mention that the Highlands, who, it is imagined, live on whisky, are hardy, brave, and chivalric. This is not the fact; it is only within the last few years that whisky has been at all a common drink in the Highlands. As an instance to show how little whisky was used in the Highlands, even so late as the year 1795, General Stewart states as a fact, that a man lived on the Garth estate, who had the appellation of "Donald Whisky," as characteristic of the circumstance, that he was a distiller, and sometimes a smuggler of that spirit.—General Stewart further states, that, until the legal distillation of whisky was prohibited in the Highlands, it was never drunk at gentlemen's tables; and that it was not till towards the middle of the last century, that spirits of any kind were drunk so much as ale, which was then the general beverage. In further proof of this, General Stewart brings forward the testimony of Mr. Stewart, of Crossmount, who died in 1791, in the 104th year of his age, and who preserved his sound judgment and accurate mind to the last hour, and who used to say, that in his youth strong frothing ale from the east was the common beverage at convivial meetings. In addition, it may be remarked, that a "whisky-house" is a term unknown in Gaelic. Public-houses, or taverns, are called *Tal-bhainne*, or ale-houses. Another very striking proof that General Stewart brings forward, is the following interesting fact, in relation to the sobriety of the early Highland clans:—During the American war, the usual allowances of spirits was served out to the soldiers of the other regiments daily, as they could not be trusted with more, lest the whole should be drunk at once. It was otherwise with the soldiers of the 43d Regiment, who were served with a proportionate allowance every fourth day, in the same manner as the officers, with liberty to use the liquor at their own discretion.—An indulgence never abused; and it was continued during the whole six campaigns. There are men in the world who glory in their power of taking an immense quantity of spirits; who, in the language of Divine inspiration, are said to be "strong to drink strong drink." These men advocate a very injurious proposition, which they urge as their defence, namely, that "drink" (referring to spirituous liquors, &c.) "if poison, is a very slow one," and the enunciation of this sentence of delayed intellect, is accompanied with the disgusting choros of a hoarse-laugh. But after having attained the meridian of life, the collection of water in the cavity of the chest from diseased heart, or in the cavity of the abdomen from diseased liver, tells them, when, for their recovery it is too late, that spirits drunk, except for medicinal purposes, form one of the highways to death.—Dr. Epps's Lectures on Drink.

THE TRAIL AND THE FABLES ORIGIN OF ROME.—Italy, the peninsula westward of Greece, was originally inhabited by tribes of an unknown race. The Pelasgians, that extensive people who settled in Greece, also established themselves in Italy. They inhabited the plains and the coasts, and were peaceful and agricultural; the mountain tribes gradually encroached upon them and conquered them.—On the banks of the River Tiber, a proportion of this people, named Siculus, was established; a tribe of the mountains, named Aborigines; by the historians, invaded their country, expelled a part, and conquered and settled themselves among the remainder; and the united people were called Latins. A portion of them lived in villages, on some hills adjacent to the Tiber. Another mountain race, called the Sabines, afterwards advanced towards the sea, and wrested from the inland parts of the banks of the Tiber a part of their territory. These nations finally coalesced, and formed one people; their joint city was named Rome, passing by its old Pelagian appellation, and it was governed by kings, chosen alternately by one of the combined nations out of the other.—Such is the most probable account of the origin of Rome which the researches of modern times have been able to give. A different and more romantic tale appears in the ancient historians; for the early history of Rome was not written till she had become a great and powerful State, and then inquiries could meet no narratives of the days long past, save what was contained in popular tradition and popular poetry, which recorded marvels of Rome's descent from wide-famed Troy, the landing of Aneas in Latium, the love of the god Mars for the vestal Rhea, her bearing twins by the god, their exposure in the Tiber, their being saved and suckled by a wolf, and fed by

a woodpecker till found by the shepherd Faustulus, their finally restoring their grandfather to the throne of Alba Longa, the city founded by Aeneas, the son of Aneas, and then collecting their fellow-shepherds, and an indiscriminate rabble, and founding a town named Rome, from Romulus, the elder of the twins, on the hills where they had been miraculously saved and educated.—Dr. Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT OF CARTHAGE.—The political constitution of Carthage claimed the admiration of Aristotle. Two magistrates named Suffetes, or judges, chosen annually from the most distinguished families, were at the head of the government; under them five persons who managed the chief affairs. All these magistrates were unpaid. The senate was composed of 100 members; if they and the five agreed on any matter, it was put into execution; if they disagreed, it was brought before the assembly of the people; the decision of the last was conclusive.—Idem.

BATH, THE RESIDENCE OF ROMAN EMPERORS.—The Romans, characteristically luxurious in their habits, and choosing their situations with the most scrupulous care, were not likely to neglect the advantages which such a neighbourhood presented. The mildness of the air, and the lovely amphitheatre of hills which surrounds this valley of waters, would tend still farther to delight them with the station—the best counterpart of their own Italy which the uncultivated land afforded—and we accordingly learn from the best accredited accounts, that it shortly became the favourite residence of the Roman governors, and sometimes of the emperors.—Idem.

RECOLLECTIONS OF PALESTINE.—The Hebrews have been called the chosen of nature; with equal propriety may she be termed the chosen of history. She draws much of her sublimest inspiration from the instructive record of God's dealings with his people. Even the Psalms are full of the finest imagery gathered from historical events; but the prophetic poetry is by far the most copious in its sublime and beautiful allusions. The history of the Hebrews in its spirit is all poetry; their poetry is almost a history, both of the past and the future. For the Prophets, what could be more appropriate, in the exercise of their functions as the messengers of God, than to paint their warnings with an increasing and energetic appeal to the well known experience of the nation? Such an appeal was not addressed to a people ignorant of their own history. It was the pride of a Hebrew, as well as his duty, to have the law and the testimony inscribed upon his heart. A Jew, well instructed, could almost repeat the contents of the sacred Books from memory. On their study the utmost exertion of wealth and labor was lavished. They were copied with the richest penmanship; they were incased in jewels; they were clasped with diamonds; they were deposited in golden arks. The whole of the one hundred and nineteenth Psalm is composed in praise of their wisdom, and to imitate their personal. How striking was the last charge of Moses to the people; "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up—thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand!" Powerful indeed must have been the influence of such familiarity with those sublime compositions! The increasing frequency with which their remarkable passages are referred to by the sacred poets, shows with what prevailing power they dwell in the popular imagination. How could it be otherwise? Almost every rite in the ceremonial of the Hebrews was founded upon or in some way connected with the remembrance of supernatural interposition. Almost every spot in the land of the Israelites was associated with the history of those glorious events. Three times a year, the whole Jewish multitude went up to the tabernacle or to Jerusalem at the feasts. Did they pass through the valley of Hebron? There lay the bones of the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Did they stand on the plains of Moab? There Aaron erected an altar to Jehovah, and entertained the angels. Did they visit the borders of the Dead Sea? Its sluggish waves rolled over the cities of the plain, and they traced the ruins of the fire-storm from heaven. If they looked towards Nebo, it was the sacred and mysterious burial-place of Moses.—If they passed near Gilgal, there the sun and moon stood still at the command of Joshua. If they rode on the mountains of Gilboa, there the glory of Israel was slain upon their liphlips. Such thrilling recollections must have met them at every step, beside a being often mingled in the memory with some vivid burst of poetry. An event, like that of the passage of the Red Sea, commemorated in a song such as that of Moses, was a treasure in the annals of the nation, whose worth in the formation of the national spirit we cannot adequately appreciate. Nor can we conceive the depth of emotion which must have dictated the frame of a devout Jewish psalmist, every time he remembered that sublime composition.—N. A. Review.

THOMSON AND COWPER.—There are few who do not love to contemplate the two great masters of descriptive English poetry, Thomson and Cowper; with whom we seem to converse with the intimacy of familiar friends, and almost to forget our veneration for the poets, in love and admiration of the virtues of the men.—Both had minds and hearts which were touched with a feeling of the beauty, and fitted to enjoy the influences of nature; and the poets of both was elevated, if not inspired, by religious

SALE.

(Wednesday) at 12 o'clock, sold at the Store of the Subscribers—without reserve, QUANTITY OF DRY GOODS, including 80 Pieces Twilled Cottons; Black & Blue Superfine Cloths; SEZE CLOAKING. Also: Boxes Arrow Root; and additional COALS, yet remaining on board ship William Booth. CROOKSHANK & WALKER, Auctioneers. (ST PUBLISHED, by J. W. Parkinon, at the Office of the Weekly Observer, Market Square, St. John's, Nfld. For the FORMS OF PRAYER, published by the same Author, are par-ticularly to call for their copies at January 4.

SAINT JOHN INSURANCE COMPANY, for the present year, shall have place at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, on the 5th instant, agree-ment of phet of Incorporation;—Notice is hereby given, that the Business of the Company his mice, and Risks taken upon the most of its enco strength was file President and Directors, of stones and THOMAS HEAVSIDE, nary aspect. 7 July, 1830.

RUCE LOGS, becoming more fished to Contract for supply- ingious and 'E LOGS, to be delivered the- dering his feilo- ill please apply to- sand devices to GEORGE THOMSON, the curiass, and Jart, and the jave PINE SAW LOGS, would, as well a- wanted.

URGING ON, in the bous of entering into con- creer of invention, he delivery of a quantity of powers of defence a W LOGS, early in the scorpis, the ballist, advantageous terms, by horror and a sublimity 'N ROBERTSON. P! SOAP! S best English Soap, de low by E & M'KENZIE, with the desire of re- searches must be made in S. RICE, &c. With furious zeal he diveived per ch's Fra- earth; his toils midst pe Boston: deally sa's—the sulfime sold CANDLES— der blazes upon the wa, 8"; dreadful art of fighting by; to endow the demon of war 'H— all of which ounipotence.

This, indeed, is grand!—thi- assignant; the powers of mind, and bespe. endowment of reason which d- GFORD. from the animals, our inferiors. Th- ened brutes content themselves with the native force which Providence has assigned them.— The angry bull units with his notes, as did his progenitors before him; the lion, the leopard, and the tiger, seek only with their talons and their fangs to gratify their sanguinary fury; and even the subtle serpent darts the same venom, and uses the same vices, as did his sire before the flood. Man alone, blessed with the inventive mind, goes on from discovery to discovery—enlarges and multiplies his powers of destruction; arrogates the tremendous weapons of Duty itself, and tasks creation to assist him in murdering his brother worm!—Wash. Irving.

THE SLAVE TRADE IN THE CARIBBEES.—It is well, perhaps, the American people should know that while we reiterate our boasts of liberty in the ears of the nations, and send back across the Atlantic our shouts of joy at the triumph of Liberty in France, we ourselves are busily engaged in the work of oppression. Yes, let it be known to the citizens of America, that at the very time when the procession which contained the President of the United States and his Cabinet was marching in triumph to the Capitol, to celebrate the victory of the French people over their oppressors, another kind of procession was marching another way, and that consisted of human beings, handcuffed in pairs, and driven along by what had the appearance of a man on a horse! A similar scene was repeated on Saturday last; a drove consisting of miles and females chained in couples, starting from a Roby's tavern on foot, for Alexandria, where, with others, they are to embark on board a slave-ship in waiting to convey them to the South.— It is but a few weeks since we saw a ship with her cargo of slaves in the port of Norfolk, Va.; on passing up the river saw another ship off Alexandria, swarming with the victims of human cupidity. Such are the scenes enacting in the heart of the American nation. Oh patriotism! where is thy indignation? Oh philanthropy! where is thy grief? Oh shame! where is thy manhood?—[Washington Spectator, Dec. 4.

Champion has made a discovery which is gratifying, as it affords an additional proof of the authenticity of Scripture records. Among the portraits, of which he has brought over a considerable collection from Egypt, is that of Sechemias, who was father of the twenty-second dynasty. This individual is the Subject of Scripture, by whom Jerusalem was taken and the temple laid waste. On the remains of the edifices erected by this Sovereign, Champollion has also observed Rehobeam, S. Bana's son and successor, among the effigies of the captive Kings.

NAUTICAL EXPERIENCES.—On Monday last, his Majesty's ship Orontes, Captain Gifford, was coming to her anchorage, standing close within Milton Island Point, G-Island, when, on a sudden, the crowd of low and lofty canvass which had been boldly extended to the breeze, disappeared in one rapid operation—the whole of her sails being "taken in" together, to the so small astonishment of the many merchant seamen who had witnessed, from the pier, the rapidity of this rar. evolution. The ship was anchored, and all her sails faded out of sight in less than three minutes and a half.—Con- nought Journal.