

difficulty which no previous author had fully cleared up. It was the remark of Hobbes, and it seemed indeed to be implied in the definition, that the sovereign authority in every state must be legally omnipotent, without any imaginable limit arising out of constitutional provisions or enactments. Yet, indisputable as this seems, when stated in general language, the direct contrary was held to be true in almost every particular case, and the sovereign authority seemed every where more or less limited by legal provision.

Mr. Austin has shewn that such a confusion has arisen from misconceiving the hands in which the sovereign authority really resides, and from supposing it inseparable either from some titular pre-eminence or some striking function, such as that of making laws. The real *sovereign*, (using that term abstractedly, the same as "*le souverain*,") is often distinct either from the king or from the legislature, and is in reality a more extended body, of which the later form a fraction, or with respect to which they may be merely ministerial. Such a sovereign body, to all legal purposes omnipotent, exists even in the most popular governments:—a truth which Mr. Austin illustrates by an analysis, both instructive and original, of the constitution of the United States of America.

The volume concludes with an outline of his intended course of lectures on Jurisprudence. On this elaborate compendium we shall only remark, that it affords, even to persons slenderly acquainted with the science, the most decisive proof of extraordinary mental power in methodising a vast and complicated subject, as well as of familiarity with that parent science of logic from which alone good and systematic classification can flow.

The style of this book is distinguished both for energy and perspicuity; set off by occasional quaintness of expression, arising in part from its original form of spoken lectures. We are glad that the work in its written form retains the freshness of his *viva voce* exposition, and that the sweep of his nervous sentences is still left entire for the reader as well as for the hearer.

THE POET'S SONG TO HIS WIFE.

By Barry Cornwall.

How many summers, love,
Have I been thine?
How many days, thou dove,
Hast thou been mine?
Time, like the winged wind
When't bends the flowers,
Hath left no mark behind,
To count the hours!

Some weight of thought, though loth,
On thee he leaves;
Some lines of care round both,
Perhaps he weaves.