

THE WESLEYAN.

"HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS."

Scripture.

VOLUME I.

HALIFAX, N. S. MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 23, 1838.

NUMBER 5.

POETRY.

THE PALM TREE.

By JOHN MALCOLM.

The palm-tree in the wilderness,
Majestic lifts its head,
And blooms in solitary grace,
Where all around is dead.
It spreads a shadow in the sun,
Where shade beside is none;
But all companionship doth shun,
And loves to dwell alone.

And, though by man it lives unseen,
Amidst the desert air,
It rears its canopy of green,
As smilingly and fair,
As if young lovers pledged their vows,
When sultry day had flown,
Beneath its high o'erarching boughs,
That blossom all alone.

Tho' there no passing warbler wings
Her melancholy way,
A voice amidst the desert sings
Its solitude away,
When winds—as o'er the air-harp's wire,
Half music and half moan—
Come stealing o'er its leafy lyre,
That murmurs all alone.

And 'neath its shadow, lulled to sleep,
Alone the pilgrim's dreams,
Its soft and breezy whispers creep,
Like sounds of his own streams,
That wander by the bowers of rest,
To which his soul hath flown,
Till morning, on the lifeless waste,
Awakes him all alone.

Sojourner of a weary land,
Where Nature never smiled,
Surrounded by no kindred band,
Sole orphan of the wild!
Thou seem'st like one whose trusting breast
Deceived—the world hath flown—
Sought, like the dove, a place of rest,
To live and die alone!

THE CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHER.

For the Wesleyan.

NUMBER II.

THE SUN.

In the centre of the planetary system to which our earth belongs is the Sun, round which, at different distances, all the planets perform their revolutions. The proportional magnitude of the Sun to the Earth, is as 1,380,000 to one. By the help of the telescope, spots are discovered on the Sun's disc, or face: they appear in various forms and numbers, the larger ones sometimes exceeding the bulk of the Earth.

Though these spots are generally to be seen, there have been periods of more than seven years, in which none have been observed; at other times, their num-

ber has been so great as almost to obscure the brightness of the Sun. "For several days together, in the year 1547, the Sun appeared little brighter than the Moon in her total eclipse, from this cause." All the spots have an apparent motion from west to east, which proves that the Sun revolves on his own axis in that direction. The period of his revolution is observed to be about twenty-five days. From the line in which the spots move, it is discovered that his axis makes an angle with the ecliptic of about seven degrees. "Sir Isaac Newton supposes the Sun to be a mighty Earth, vehemently hot, and that the heat was preserved by the amazing size of the body, and the mutual action and reaction of that and the light emitted from it."

Dr. Herschel conjectures that the Sun is surrounded with a transparent atmosphere, like the Earth; that this is again encompassed by a kind of shell, which he calls the Lucid Atmosphere, whence light proceeds to the whole system, and from which the Sun also, through its transparent atmosphere, is enlightened with a perpetual day. The appearance of spots, he thinks, to be occasioned by a small part of the lucid atmosphere being, by some means or other, removed. That these spots are not the smoke, or the opaque matter, thrown up by volcanoes, as some have imagined; but real cavities, as evident from their appearance through a large telescope; first one side of the cavity presents itself to a spectator; as the Sun revolves round its axis, he sees down into the cavity, and, when it has advanced still farther, the other side becomes visible. Whatever theory of the Sun the ingenuity of man may invent, we know from experience, that "truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun."

Were we to be shut up for a short time in total darkness, we should doubtless perceive a greater force in this observation of the wise King of Israel, than we can now imagine. A faithful sufferer in the cause of God and Truth, who had been kept in a dark dungeon in the inquisition in Portugal, when brought forth to be martyred, on beholding the light of the Sun, which he had not seen for many years, could not forbear exclaiming, "Who that has reason in him could worship any but the maker of that glorious creature?" His inhuman persecutors gagged him immediately, and hurried him on to the stake.

It is our mercy that, uninterrupted by the iron hand of persecution, we can behold the Sun, and contemplate that display which it affords of the beneficence, power, wisdom, and glory of Him who made "the greater light to rule by day;" and who seems to have designed this glorious luminary as, in some degree, an emblem of his own splendour and majesty.

with some de...
not less than...
credible power...
er. Taking...
each of 25...
According to...
al to the power...
ugh the medium...
Each hour...
of land, and...
ants of Great...
w done by...
M. Leggett, W...
Publication...
of about 200...
ictures, poems...
every effort to...
patrons may...
shillings and...
as to the mechan...
ers through the...
condensed and simpl...
signed to facilit...
native language...
Provincial...
critical acumen...
h the most unqu...
d, where one dou...
orks received at...
of Messrs. A. & W...
April 9th.
Sermon entitled...
OF CHRIST;...
yaboro', on Sunday...
April 3.
ary Store of Messrs...
Mr. J. Moore.
ents taken from...
st. By Alex. W...
April 8.
e imperial octave...
n. Cunnabell, at his...
Terms: Seven Shil...
advance: [Sa. 8d...
must be addressed...
observe the follow...
n money must be...
cribed for, the other...
first instance, send...
part of this re...
se forward at the...
observing the latter...
persons, will be...
a speedy return...
l subjects, direct...
y requested: but in...
icle, however good...
be destroyed. Se...
es of their autho...
ed with the name...
ed to the Editors...
New Brunswick...
lowing gentlemen...
Lewis; St. David's...
St. Andrews, Mr...
dericton, Mr. The...
John, Mr. James...
ale, Mr. H. Hay...
Mr. A. Wright...
loch Stiles; Lower...
Wilbur; New Hor...
Wood; Dorchester...
Eq.; F. De Bata...
Wood; Fort Law...
Es; Halifax, N. S...
Eq.; Shubenacadie...
Cape Breton, Syd...
is will be enlarg...
under the regula...
to a N. S. STATE