Hebrew Melodies.

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Ancient aus Modern

Newly arranged Lammonized correctional Revised with appropriate Symphonits a accompanionents

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By

Lord Byron

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my giving him an equal slane in the publication of the first poet of the age, by impression that I should but be paythe a fact tribute of respect to the first poet of the age, by having his versus sung by the greatest vocalist of the day, and I accordingly paid Mr. Desiranchis moiety arising from the sale of the first colition.

Mr. Braham's professional occupations, however, present including his constant of professional p

and the grave has closed on the greatest master of sublime song that England has since their days of Milton or may again behold for ages.

The title under which this work appears before the public requires that a few words should be said in explanation of what are the protensions of the music.

"The Hebrew Melodies are a selection from the favorite airs which are still sung in the religious coronomies of the Jews. Some of these in common have, with all their sacred compositions, been preserved by memory and tradition only; their age and originality, therefore, must be left to conjecture; but the latitude given to the taste and genius of their performers has been the means of ingrafting on the original melodies a certain wildness and pathos; which have at length become the chief-characteristics of the sacred songs of the Jews."

The following quotation from my "Essay on the History and Theory of Music" may not be uninteresting, especially as it tends to strengthen the belief that the Hebrew Melodies have great claims to originality and antiquity.

"Recitative may be traced many centuries before its having been heard of in Greece, for it was known and in general use in the earliest patriarchal times of the Jews; it was then, and still is, materially connected with their religious ceremonics: every word of prayer offered to the Deity, whether in their private or public devotions, is given in a kind of chant; which, although it may not come under the exact character of legitimate recitative, still bears the sound of song."

The circumstance of Mr. Braham's name not being connected with the musical arrangement of the present edition, may require some explanation.

vi. Preface.

I originally, under the patronage of their Royal Highnesses the late Princess Charlotte of Wales, the Duchess of York, the Dukes of Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, &c. &c. &c. proposed to publish the work by subscription, when, amongst other subscribers, Mr. Braham did me the favor to put his name down for two copies, but on an interview with that gentleman, he proposed his singing the melodies in public, and to assist me in the arrangement of them, on condition of my giving him an equal share in the publication. To this I readily consented, under the impression that I should but be paying a just tribute of respect to the first poet of the age, by having his verses sung by the greatest vocalist of the day, and I accordingly paid Mr. Braham his moiety arising from the sale of the first edition.

Mr. Braham's professional occupations, however, preventing him from fulfilling his engagement to me, I considered our contract cancelled, and I published the present new edition, harmonized, corrected, revised, and entirely arranged by myself; but willing to give Mr. Braham (whose urbanity of retaining anti-interest in the work, if herefelt inclined. I previously wrote to him on the subject, schammer the copies of the letters which passed between us, in the copies of the lett

I have purchased the copyright of the Hebrew Melodies from S——'s assignees; I think, if a new edition were published, there would be a sale: are you disposed to join mein the work? At the purchase and the sale is a sale in the work?

Yours faithfully,

To John Braham, Esq. — — definition of marked sense of the collection of the collec

. NATHAN.

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of the above address. I thank you for your offer, but I am sorry I must decline it.

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To J. NATHAN, Esq.

JOHN BRAHAM.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

One of these anecdotes which had been published in a late edition of the music of the Hebrew Melodies, gave a mortal offence to an honourable gentleman, who peremptorily threatened to write a critique in a weekly paper, which threat was carried into execution, with that scurrility which has ever identified itself with the writer: my reply, which was by his particular desire withheld, I now beg to lay before my reader.

SIR.

I lately observed in your paper a critique on the new edition of the Hebrew Melodies, interspersed with conversations and original anecdotes of Lord Byron, which I have just had the honour of submitting to the public. In this critique I had the mortification to see myself rather unceromoniously treated; but feeling as I then did, and as I still must conclude, that every man who lays himself open to public opinion, has a right to expect impartial praise or dispraise from the public press, I was willing to submit to the censure so strongly expressed in this publication, with true fortitude and resignation; but finding that the critique on my humble efforts was not written by those who are professionally employed to review works of this nature, but by one, who to gratify private pique, had made that paper the vehicle for giving vent to his malignant and scurrilous spleen, (occasioned by disappointed vanity and other causes, at a future period to be mentioned,) and at whose hands I have unfortunately received favors too dearly purchased. I venture to hope you will allow me a place in your valuable columns for the following remarks, in the shape of reply to this self-dubbed critic, having no inclination " avaler des conleugres," and as little desire to the appellation of "toad-eater," at the same time I beg to disclaim any allusion to the public press, which, as I before said, has a just right to censure or approve the works of every writer.

It seems that this honourable friend of mine, not satisfied with the cacoethes loquendi and the cacoethes carpendi, has at length been infected with the cacoethes scribendi, and so exclusive is his monopoly of this new enjoyment, that he would deprive a poor outcast like myself of the privilege of writing on a subject which he has studied from his infancy.

"Cedite romani scriptores, cedite Graii."

The critique of this long-cared gentleman, so like that species of animal on which Balaam rode, commences with an attack on me for quoting Hebrew authority: (a) it is certainly rather

Light of the Manager of the

presumptuous in one educated originally for the Jewish church, to venture even an opinion on the Mosaic creed, much more any description of their historians: and there most assuredly does appear something like reason as well as liberality in the request, that "I shave my two Hebrew friends before introducing them into genteel society;" and I must confess, I care not how soon I commence the operation, so that this pitiful fellow will first lend me his chin to practise upon, since it is said "a barbe de fol, on apprend a raire;" besides, I might in all probability transform these beards of ancient growth, into a substantial whip for snarling puppies.(b)

"As for the wildness of the melodies," says this very honourable critic, "such a plea in their favor might be better received among the Esquimaux Indians, than in a country where that sort of civilization in music, which own obedience to the laws of rhythm, has never yet been esteemed a drawback." This sentence is truly ludicrous: the upper mansion of this shallow-pated critic must be in a doubtful state of repair, or it would certainly have occurred to his recollection, that the lines which he did me the honour to quote from my present Preface, are rather unfortunately for him, the same expressions, verbatim, as appeared in the Original Preface, and WRITTEN BY HIMSELF, with the strict injunction that his name did not appear. Here followeth the sentence alluded to, from the pen of this critic, a tourner casaque!!!

"The latitude given to the taste and genius of their performers, has been the means of ingrafting on the original melodies, a certain wildness and pathos, which have at length become the chief characteristic of the sacred songs of the Jews!!! (c)

"Nathan," continueth this all-wise and powerful critic, "would exhibit himself as the employer or taskmaster of the noble poet, not as a person engaged professionally to contribute to his amusement." Now, it so happens, that Nathan never did in the whole course of his life, suffer himself to be engaged to contribute to the amusement of any private individual, or in any private society whatever. So much for the truth of this remark!!!

This tenacious critic next insolently denies the authenticity of an anecdote, in which Lord Byron's sister is said to have received, from her affectionate brother, a small tribute of his regard in the shape of a compliment so justly her due: (d) this little proof of a brother's attachment for an amiable sister, is envied by this snarting critic. Quere: had he not better have kept any further allusion to Miss K—— from the public mind? "Bosotum in crasso jurares acre nature."(e)

This Quizotic commentator lastly affects to be under serious apprehension for the opinion of the public respecting Lord Byron, in consequence of an anecdote or two, in which his Lordship has paid a gentlemanty compliment to a lady. "Mr. Nathan represents his Patron and friend,"

⁽b) It may be well to remind the honourable gentleman that "barba facit hominem," therefore the hair on the chin of my two Hebrew friends can reflect greater honour upon them than the illiberal remarks of a brainless blockhead, actuated by the vindictive feelings of the moment, can possibly serve to injure them in private or public estimation.

⁽c) See Preface to the first number of the music to the Hebrow Melodies for the above passage. An excellent Preface, which was greatly admired by Lord Byron, was written expressly for these Melodies when originally published, by Mr. Nathan's friend, R. H. Evans, esq. of the Times Newspaper, but the envy of this would be critic (whose vanity induced him to believe that no Preface could possibly equal the one he himself wrote) prevented its insertion. Mr. Evans, however, by the advice of his friends, has since published his Preface separately, dedicated to Messrs. Braham and Nathan.

⁽d) Sce " She Walks in Beauty," p. 13.

⁽e) I crave pardon for reminding my readers that the people of the Greek province of Bosotia were proverbially remarkable for their stupidity.

saith this sapient critic, "as a most silly and flippant personage; and as Lord Byron has been hitherto unknown to the public in this light, we hope our quotations may not be found tedious: his Lordship subsequently appears a solemn coxcomb; next as theatrical and affected; and lastly as a complete fool." In reference to this seeming alarm for the new character in which Lord Byron may appear, I trust I shall be excused the liberty of applying to the critic, the old saying "Hæredis fletus sub persona risus est."

Respecting the one false accent which this growelling critic has, even with Ninety-eight eyes less than Argus, so miraculously discovered in One Hundred and Twenty-four pages, it may be necessary to bring to the recollection of this rusty-brained gentleman, the pains taken with him to ensure (by a proper management of breath) a correct reading of the poetry, and how to avoid the imperfect accentuation, at a time when his sole happiness seemed centered in the attempt to sing with his base-toned voice, the bass of this then "beautiful glee:" besides which, if he had taken the trouble to look at page 17, he would most assuredly, without the aid of Diogenes's lantern, have discovered that Mr. Nathan took upon himself the liberty of adding two notes to correct the one false accent alluded to, at the risk of injuring the original melody. (f)

It would have been well also for the paper-skulled musician, who has meanly lent his services to the self-dubbed critic in this voyage of discovery, if he had read a little more, before he ventured to find fault with matters beyond his comprehension, for

"So modero 'pothecaries taught the art,
By doctor's bills, to play the doctor's part;
Bold in the practice of mistaken rules,
Prescribe, apply, and call their masters' fools."

It is however natural that this souffre douleur of a flat should be startled at the appearance of a sharp in any shape or form, more especially when in company with an offspring of this musical idiot: for whether from blindness or the wilful desire to make right wrong, (as fools are sometimes capable of becoming knaves,) he has contrived, in the given example of the sharp sixth, to introduce a monster in the shape of a note of his own creation! More of this anon!!!

Sir.

I have the honour to subscribe myself,

Yours, obediently,

I NATHAN

CRITIQUES.

"Fugitive Pieces and Reminiscences of Lord Byron, by Nathan, who, by the drollery of his writings, has thrown us into more violent convulsions of laughter than any individual since the illustrious Joe Miller. Though we do not deny that there is excellent fun in his History and Theory of Music, it does not produce that outrageous merriment which his anecdotes of Lord Byron's conversations, and of Lady Caroline Lamb's correspondence, call forth. In this respect, the Fugitive Pieces' is a chef d'œurre.

"He draws the reader's attention to an opinion upon Serenus Samonicus; passes from the subject of Passover Biscuits to considerations of the Abracadabra: from talk of Brandy to the Mozaic Dispensation; from Julius Africanus to Dowton drunk with toddy—yet it is not out of character with the peculiarly comic vein of Nathan.

"In the present volume we find a reprint of the well-known Hebrew Melodies of Lord Byron, with some new speeches of his lordship, blended with psychological speculations, together with correspondences, and an attack upon an honourable gentleman, by Nathan, whose exquisite fun is admirably displayed in the Advertisement to the Fugitive Pieces.

Atlas, June 7th, 1829.

It is to be inferred that the konourable writer of the above critique (whose risible muscles have been so alarmingly agitated) in his anxiety to commit his hasty thoughts to paper, did not recollect the excellent Latin motto,

PER MULTUM RISUM, POTERIS COGNOSCERE STULTUM.

"The words of the melodies are accompanied by brief remarks or anecdotes of his lordship, generally illustrative of his habits of thought, and possessing considerable interest."—The Court Journal, May 23, 1829.

"Nathan, whose very soul is musical, threw all his powers into these melodies. The book before us relating chiefly to the melodies, forms a kind of chit-chat companion to his musical work. It is highly amusing, and apprinked throughout with remarks and anecdotes of a most interesting character. When the melodies were preparing for the press, Byron and Nathan were in frequent and familiar communication, and the various incidents that occurred are presented to the reader in a plain unaffected style. In abort, we are admitted to the tête a tête of the poet and composer, and feel ourselves one of the party while the work was concecting, without any dread of being intrusive."— Derset County Chronicle, May 28, 1829.

"Mr. Nathan has here presented us with a variety of anecdotes remarkably diverting, respecting Lord Byron—un acquaintance, founded on mutual esteem, sprung up between the noble poet and composer, the floating recollections of which supply for the most part the materials of the good-humoured gossiping volume before us, and a very interesting one it is—consists of a republication of the 'Hebrew Melodies,' to each of which some little anecdote is attached, descriptive of the circumstances attending its composition, or illustrative of the character and feeling of Lord Byron. Mr. Nathan relates some pleasant and piquant anecdotes of Lady Curoline Lamb, which, together with his reminiscences of Lord Byron, render this volume one of the most entertaining we have perused for some time."—The Sun, May 29, 1829.

"Reminiscences of Lord Byron, by Mr. Nathan, have produced considerable sensation in the literary world, and must ensure to the author an extensive sale, as a reward for his highly amosing and pleasing production."

John Bull, June 14, 1829.

"There are several interesting anecdotical recollections of Lord Byron, especially his connexion with Drury-lane Theatre; and, above all, a new light is thrown on his lordship's affair with Mrs. Mardyn: likewise some characteristic traits of the late Lady Caroline Lamb, with some pleasing specimens of her ladyship's poetical tolent.—The Mirror, No. 373.

"We resume our pledge and continue our remarks upon Nathan's excellent work; and as we concluded our last review with a passing glance at purse-proud oppression from a dandy banker to our author."

"The Reminiscences" present us with many curious anecdotes of Byron, who does not appear to be the misanthrope which many called him. Byron was a keen observer of human nature, and, where his penetrating glance shot into the heart, he saw the worst feelings concealed beneath the varnish, or where he noticed programe and folly entwined round the heart of a rogue or coxcomb, he met their advances with a rigidity which would damp the bravest doubt in Bond street.

"Our limits prevent a longer notice, but we can enfely recommend it to our readers as a valuable companion to the Hebrew Melodies, and as an interesting little work to lie upon the table when canni steals upon the lounger on a summer's day."—The Dorset County Chronick, June 11th, 1829.

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THE HEBREW MELODIES WILL BE COMPLETE IN FOUR NUMBERS.				

NUMBERS III. AND IV. ARE IN THE PRESS.

This Edition will contain (in addition to those formerly published) some new Melodies, with original MS. Poetry, by Lord Byron.











CON MOTO. She walks in beauty_ like the night Of cloudless climes and Counter Tenor SOPRANO. beauty_ like the night Of cloudless climes and BASSO. She walks in beauty_ like the night bin PIANO FQRTE.

Hebrew Meladies, Nº1.

linei

Nathan.



















SHE WALKS IN BEAUTY.

SHE walks in beauty, like the night
Of cloudless climes and starry skies;
And all that's best of dark and bright,
Meet in her aspect and her eyes:
Thus mellow'd to that tender light,
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

One shade the more, one ray the less,
Had half impair'd the nameless grace
Which waves in every raven tress,
Or softly lightens o'er her face;
Where thoughts serenely sweet express
How pure, how dear, their dwelling-place.

And on that cheek, and o'er that brow,
So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,
The smiles that win, the tints that glow,
But tell of days in goodness spent,—
A mind at peace with all below,
A heart whose love is innocent!

LOND BYRON here represents, with much discernment and feeling, the various shades of perfection in female beauty, by comparing with a masterly touch the serence placedity and harmony of features to various objects in nature.

The empty shew so often predominant in the structure and embellishments of female attire, he tacitly, but strongly, condemns, by exhibiting the simple and becoming beauty of their contraries.

The countenance, which in the female character is generally the index of the mind, his Lordship here represents with a degree of penetration which can only be the result of keen observation and experience, drawing a beautiful and striking conclusion, that without innocence, peace, and harmony within, we can scarcely find placidity and composure in female expression.

When arranging the first edition of the Hebrew Melodies, it was remarked that his Lordship generally requested to hear this molody sung, and would not unfrequently join in its execution. There was a melancholy expression hanging over his countenance on these occasions, which would induce a bolief that there was somewhat more of reality connected with the feelings which the lines expressed, than the more imagination of the poet. On finding this air, therefore, placed first in the arrangement, (which was done in compliment to his Lordship,) he appeared much pleased. These circumstances, trivial in themselves, but certainly important to the developement of the real character of his Lordship, gave rise to many conjectures relative to the above lines. It is most probable, from the fervent attachment he felt towards his sister, whose countanance was as beautiful, as her disposition was amiable, and the unceasing tenderness with which he seemed on all occasions to view her, that they were directed to that Lady alone. This opinion is much strengthened, by the anxiety he betrayed whenever the composition was executed in her presence.

IF THAT HIGH WORLD:

Our own; surviving love endears;
If there the cherish'd heart be fond,
The eye, the same except in tears:
How welcome those untrodden spheres!
How sweet this very hour to die!
To sour from earth, and find all fears,
Lost in thy light—Eternity!

It must be so—tis not for self

That we so tremble on the brink;
And striving to o'erleap the gulf,

Yet cling to being's breaking link.

Oh! in that future let us think,

To hold each heart the heart that shares;

With them th' immortal waters drink,

And soul in soul grow deathless theirs!

Perhaps no subject has been more frequently canvassed, and more entirely misunderstood, than the religious sentiments of Lord Byron; and it is more than probable, that the philosophic doubts he has sometimes poetically thrown out, may have given rise to the volumes of calumny and abuse which have been heaped on him. The trith is, that, under a singularly playful manner, he was wrapped in profound meditation; and it not unfrequently occurred; that he would throw into the conviviality of the moment the disjointed reflections of his contemplative mind. It must, however, be added, that these sallies were too often made the subject of grave examination, and sometimes of malicious construction. On the occasion of his presenting me with these versus; I could not refrain from remarking that the monosyllable (if) with which it commenced, would doubtless form the ground of very grave condemnation. He smiled, and observed; that there were two distinct classes of readers, especially of pootry: the one could understand and appreciate the feelings of a writer, without making every imaginative thought the foundation of a judgment on his principles; the other could neither understand nor judge of any thing but matter of fact—line and rule critics—with whom he never had any great ambition to become a favorite. It followed, that my suggestion was treated as an assertion—numerous attacks were made on the noble author's religion, and in some an inference of atheism was drawn.

In a subsequent conversation, he observed to me, "They accuse me of atheism; an atheist I could never be: no man of reflection can feel otherwise than doubtful and anxious when reflecting on futurity. Yet," continued he, rising heatily from his seat, and pacing the room.

"It must be so tremble on the brink."

"Alas! Nathan, we either know too little or feel too much on this subject; and, if it be criminal to speculate on it, (as the gentlemen critics say.) I fear I must ever remain an awful offender?"























.103



Hebrew Metalies No. 1.







JEPHTHA'S DAUGHTER

SINCE our country, our God,—oh, my sire!

Demand that thy daughter expire;

Since thy triumph was bought by thy vow,

Strike the bosom that's bared to thee now.

And the voice of my mourning is o'er, And the mountains behold me no more: If the hand that I love lay me low, There cannot be pain in the blow!

And of this, oh, my father! be sure, That the blood of thy child is as pure As the blessing I beg ere it flow, And the last thought that soothes me below.

Though the virgins of Salem lament, Be the judge of the hero unbent! I have won the great battle for thee, And my father and country are free.

When this blood of thy giving hath gush'd, When the voice that thou lovest is hush'd, Let my memory still be thy pride, And forget not I smiled as I died!

The vows of the ancients, made either in memory of miraculous deliverances, such as the vanquishing of an enemy, or any event of importance, were held as inviolable by the Jewish nation, and those feelings were no less cherished by the Greeks and Romans, even to an unnatural extent.

The filial affection portrayed by the daughter of Jephtha, is finely expressed in this Melody; the submission to that which she considered the imperative duty of a parent, and the soothing, the overwhelming sorrow not only of her father but of the virgin daughters of Salem, are expressed in language well suited to the lamentable tale.

When the last anguish is over, and the stillness of death reigns in the mortal remains of his beloved daughter, she pathetically invokes her father to cherish her memory, and to bear in remembrance that she was a willing victim, and resigned her life with a smile on her countenance.

Hebrew Mclodies, Nº 1.

It is well known that the tale of Jophtha's sacrifice is involved in much obscurity. The number of instances of fabulous history of a similar mode of appearing the gods appears to refer its origin to Greece, the fountain head of all that is romantic.*

When these beautiful lines were composed by Lord Byron, I was anxious to ascertain his real sentiments on the subject, hinting my own belief that it might not necessarily mean a positive sacrifice of the daughter's life, but perhaps referred to a sentence of perpetual seclusion, a state held by the Jews as dead indeed to society, and the most severe infliction that could be imposed. With his usual frankness, he observed, "Whatever may be the absolute state of the case, I am innocent of her blood; she has been killed to my hands: besides, you know such an infliction, as the world goes, would not be a subject for sentiment or pathos; therefore do not seek to exumate the lady."

On another occasion when Jophtha was the subject of conversation, his lordship, with much good-humor, suddenly put an end to the argument, by exclaiming, "Well, my hands are not imbrued in her blood! I shall not by killing her incur censure from the world, for an attempt to deprive them of the pleasure of thinking a little more on the subject."

Nearly all the ancient commentators agree in opinion that Jephtha did actually sacrifice the life of his daughter. Jonathan, son of Huziel, who lived in the time of the second temple, and who gave the explanation of the Bible in Chaldaic, on verses 39 and 40 th of the eleventh chapter of Judges, says, "and it became a law in Israel, that no man should ever offer up his son or daughter for a sacrifice, as Jephtha had done: and," continues the commentator, "Jephtha did not refer to, or inquire of, Phinehas the priest; † for, had he done so, Phinehas would have informed him that his daughter could be redeemed with money. There is a law in

Some of the literati of the present day, whom I have had accasion to consult on this subject, appear to treat the matter altogether as actitions. There are, however, many homogeneous narratives, recorded by various writers, who give at least strong colouring to the probability of its authenticity, leaving out of question the indiscreet and barbarous rashners of rows so rending to common humanity, and to all laws of nature, and the improbability of such moustrous sacrifices proving acceptable to the most high and wonderful Architect of the Universe, whom we are led to believe "all mercy and goodness."

In the History of Telemachus, Idomeneus, the son of Deucalion, and grandson to Minos, who went with the rest of the Greein kings to the siege of Troy, being, on his return to Crete, surprised by so violent a storm, that the pitot and most experienced markers in the ship thought they would inevitably be east away, is made to invoke Neptune in these words: "O powrful god! who commandest the empire of the sea, vonehands to hear the prayors of the distressed. If thou deliverest me from the trry of the winds, and bringest me again and to Crete; the first head I see shall fall by my own hands, a sacrifice to thy deity!" In the mean time the son of Idomeneus, impatient to see his father again, made hasto to meet and embrace him at his lacking. The father, who had escaped the storm, arrived safe at the wished for haven; but a black presage of his misfortune now made him bitterly repent his rash vow: he dreaded his coming among his own people; he turned his eyes to the ground, and trembled for some other head, less dear to him in the world. He sees his son—he starts back with horror—his eyes in vain look about for some other head, less dear to him, to serve for his intended sacrifice. Grown mad, and pushed on by the infernal fories, he thrust his sword into the heart of the youth, and drew it out again, all recking and dreached in blood, to plunge it into be one howels; but he was prevented by those that were present.

This account of Idomeneus is not exactly fabulous, for we find it narrated by several authors. Servius, in his Commentary to Virgil, relates it as follows:

"Idomeneus, quum post eversum Trojam reverteretur, in tempostato devovit diis sacrificaturum se dare, que ci primo occurrissot. Configit autem, ut filius ejus primus occurreret; quem quum, ut atil dicunt, immolarset; ut alii, immolare voluisset, è civibus pulsus regno, Salentinum Calabree promontorium tonult, juxtu qued condidit civitatem."

"Idomeneus, when he was returning from Crete, after the destruction of Troy, was caught in a storm; and in that extrems he vowed that he would sacrifice to the gods the first being that should meet blue on his landing. It happened that his son was the first person that presented himself to his view. And when he had sacrificed him, as some say, or attempted it, as other report, he was driven from his kingdom by his subjects; and having taken possession of the promontery of Salentianum, in Calabraho built a city in that neighbourhood."—Seav. At. 111, 121, X1, 201.

The following story of Iphlgenia is also strikingly similar to that of Jephtha: "When the Greeks, going to the Trojan van were delained by contrary winds at Aulis, they were informed by one of the soothsayers, that, to appears the gods, they must sacrifice Iphigenia (the daughter of Agamemon and Clytemnestra,) to Diana.

"The father, who had provoked the goldess by killing her favorite stag, heard this with the greatest horror and indigratice; and rather than shed the blood of his daughter, he commanded one of his heralds, a chief of the Greeian forces, to order all the assembly to depart, each to his respective home. Ulyases and the generals interfered, and Agamemon conscuted to immobile his daughter for the common cause of Greece.

† This is the same Phluchas who is mentioned in Numbers, chap. xxv, verse 11:—"Phinchas, the son of Elenzer, the son of Aaron the priest, bath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel. He was living in the time of Jephtha, as we find in Judges, chap. xx, verse 28. "And Phluchas the son of Eleazer, the son of Aaron, stoud before it in those days." And this was many years after Jephtha. The same Phinchas existed more than 300 years, as it appears in the book called above above. "Chain of Tradition."

Israel, that when a man offereth an animal that is unfit for sacrifice, it must be redeemed with money, with which another animal that is fit for sacrifice shall be purchased." See Talmud.

Notwithstanding that the Medrish, † and nearly all the Hebrew commentators, are decided in their opinion as to the positive sacrifice of life in this instance, more than a sentence of perpetual seclusion cannot be concluded from sacred history. ‡

The errors that have arisen from literal translation of figurative expressions in use among a particular people, have frequently occasioned an entire misconception of their tendency. It is not always sufficiently remembered that the eastern nations, especially the Jews, are peculiarly given to the use of figures, which, indeed, seem to have originated from the early use of hisroglyphics.

The passage in Judges, chapter xi, verso 37, היררי על ההרכון "And I will go down by the mountains." In Medrish Tanhuma, Rabi Tanhuma saith, that the expression "mountain" is used for the sanhedrim, for mighty men are so called.—Thus the daughter of Jephtha said, "I will go down by the mountains, peradventure they will annul the vow."

To prove that the expression "mountain" is used for mighty men, in Micah, chap. vi, verses 1 and 2, it says, "Hear ye now what the Lord saith: arise, contend thou before the mountains, and the hills hear my voice; and hear ye, O mountains! the Lord's controversy, and ye strong foundations of the earth; for the Lord hath a controversy with his people, and he will plead with Israel."

The authors Rashi § and Rabi David Kimshi say, the "mountains" are the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and the "hills" are the mothers Sarah, Rebecca, Leah, and Rashel.

King David also calls himself a "Mount," as in Psalm xxx, תרביות להררי עת, "Thou hast caused my mount to stand strong." Rashi explains it thus: "Thou hast caused my graudeur to be strong." Aben Ezzra has it thus, "Thou hast made me a strong mount." Don Aben Jechiah, one of the nobles of Judah, says, "David called himself a mount."

From this view of the subject we can easily understand how it occurred, that persons in imminent peril went down to the mountains, who were, doubtless, a race of persons similar to the Persian magi.

- * The redeeming of a person is mentioned in Lovitieus, chap. xxvli, verses 3, 4, 5.
- † Thus says the Medrish: "Phinchas, being then the priest of the age, said unto himself, 'Jephtha is in want of one. It is proper that he should come to me.' And Jephtha said, 'I am lead governor of Israel; should I go to him? So between them both the damsel perished; and therefore they were both punished for the sake of her blood, as follows: The Holy Spirit departed from Phinchas; as it is mentioned in Chron. chap. ix, verse 20.—'And Phincas, the son of Eleazer, was the ruler over them in time past (before and until this event), and the Lord was with him.' And Jephtha was afflicted with leprosy; so that his limbs fell off of him in every place where he went, as it is said; 'and he was buried in the critics of Gilead, 123 2710.'"
 - f Judges, chap. xi, verse 30.
 - | ידרור | And I will go down
 - על על
- man the mountains;
- which is in the English Bible thus incorrectly given, "that I may go up and down upon the mountains."
- § Rabi Schelemuth Jarchi, an eminent and learned writer on the Bible, who, according to the Hebrew licence of taking the initials of succeeding words, and joining them together, is commonly called Rashi.

en in controllation of the co

12 Agrandation

THE WILD GAZELLE.

THE wild Gazelle on Judah's hills Exulting yet may bound, And drink from all the living rills That gush on holy ground,
Its eiry step and glorious eye May glance in tameless transport by.

A step as fleet, an eye more bright Hath Judah witness'd there, And o'er her scenes of lost delight Inhabitants more fair; The cedars wave on Lebanon,
But Judah's stateller maids are gone.

More blest each palm that shades those plains Than Israel's scattered race; For taking root it there remains In solitary grace.

In somery grace.

It cannot quit its place of birth,

It will not live in other earth.

But we must wander witheringly

In other lands to die,
And where our fathers' ashes be,
Our own may never lie Our temple hath not left a stone And mockery sits on Salem's throne.

Lord Byron has at all times been successful in his metaphorical allusions; the stately steps of the Gazello, bounding upon the mountains with a more exalted opinion of its own powers than all other animals, drinking independently from the rills, as if one of the lords of the creation, presents a picture combining at once elegance of form, with an apparent consciousness of its own structure.

The cedars of Lebanon are beautifully brought in as a testimony of what Israel once was, and the palms of

the plains are scattered and dispersed to take root successfully, in no other soil: like to the latter, the sons of Judah are bereft of their paternal possessions, they wither and die in exile, and the ashes of their fathers cease to mingle with posterity, baving no certain sepulchre.

The wild Gazelle is an animal of peculiar grace and beauty; it is the same that bears the name of antelope: it is calebrated for its timidity and swiftness. In reference to these qualities, the expression "tameless transport," has been considered singularly appropriate.

Lord Byron's fondness for animals, generalty, was conspicuous: he was in possession of some beautiful parrots, with which, during the intervals of his writing, he used commonly to amuse himself. He had rendered one of these so attached to him, that though entirely at war with strangers, it evinced the greatest anxiety to be always with him. If his lordship seemed to notice any person particularly, this bird would express its indignation and jealousy in the most amusing manner, and would immediately attack his lordship, until he bestowed his caresses on it.

This little exhibition used to please him; and on one occasion he remarked, "this creature would exhibit no diminution of affection in a cottage, nor more if it were on the throne." This remark was casual; but at the

moment he made it, his feelings were strongly aroused, from circumstances too well known to the public.

My attention was, one morning, particularly attracted in witnessing the patience of Lord Byron, when assailed by one of his favorite birds. I was leaving the room, accompanied to the door by his Lordship, when one of them lighted upon his foot, which it lacerated till the blood flowed copiously; instead of being excited by the pain produced, his lordship was only lost in admiration at the strong attachment of the bird, which he instantly careased, and, in the words of Macheath, exclaimed, "Was this well done, Jenny?"

It must here be remarked, that the bird took its name from that of the donor, given in compliment by his

Lordship.

I waited upon Lord Byron the next morning to inquire after his foot, his lordship treated the matter with indifference, and said, "I am confident, Nathan, that the wound was intended for you; but Jenny, in her jealous fit, mistook her aim." He then imprisoned the parrot in its cage, and observed, "Jenny, like other ladica, can play a deceitful part; she will come your attention, and when you least expect it, will revenge herself for yesterday's disappointment."

















The mild Gazellel























Attribute hour,







IT IS THE HOUR.

It is the hour when from the boughs
The nightingale's high note is heard,
It is the hour—when lovers' vows
Seem sweet in every whisper'd word,
And gentle winds and waters near
Make music to the lonely ear.
Each flower the dews have lightly wet,
And in the sky the stars are met:
And on the wave is deeper blue,
And on the leaf a browner hue,
And in the Heaven, that clear obscure
So softly dark, and darkly pure,
That follows the decline of day
As twilight melts beneath the moon away.

The beauties of solitude are finely expressed in the foregoing melody: the stillness of night, with all its natural attendants; the nightingale raising its melodious notes, the gentle breezes, the murmuring of a distant rill, all harmonize to add pleasure to the happy lovers in their lonely retreat.

The starry heavens, the waves of the ocean, the azure sky, the falling dew, and the autumnal leaves, are beautifully arranged to the imagination, so as to excite the finest feelings of admiration.

This composition brings to my recollection a conversation with the noble author, relative to the pronunciation of his name. His lordship's family have differed; some calling it By'-ron, others Byy'-on. On his entering the room while this was the subject of conversation, his own pronunciation was asked. He replied, somewhat indifferently, "Both were right:" but catching the eye of a very beautiful young lady near him, he said, "Pray, madam, may I be allowed to ask which you prefer?" "Oh, By'-ron, certainly." "Then, henceforward," exclaimed his lordship, "By'-ron it shall be."

If the foregoing anecdote is illustrative of his lordship's attention to the fair sex, the following one is perhaps not less characteristic of the poetical feeling which usually accompanied his complimentary offusions of gallantry. At a party where his lordship was present, a reference to those elegant lines, commencing with "If that High World," had given rise to a speculative argument on the probable nature of happiness in a future state, and occasioned a desire in one of the ladies to ascertain his lordship's opinion on the subject; requesting, therefore, to know what might constitute, in his idea, the happiness of the next world, he quickly replied, "The pleasure, madam, of seeing you there."

OH! WEEP FOR THOSE.

On! weep for those that wept by Babel's stream, Whose shrines are desolate, whose land a dream; Weep for the harp of Judah's broken shell, Mourn, where their God hath dwelt, the Godless dwell!

And where shall Israel lave her bleeding feet? And when shall Zion's songs again seem sweet? And Judah's melody once more rejoice The hearts that leap'd before its heavenly voice?

Tribes of the wandering foot and weary breast! How shall ye flee away and be at rest? The wild-dove hath her nest, the fox his cave, Mankind their Country, Israel but the grave.

The desolate state of the Jewish nation is here mournfully depicted as exiles in a foreign land, but still remembering Zion. They are here placed in a mournful group by the streams of Babel, lamenting the land they had lost, now possessed by the profligate and ungodly: the song once heard in that land, now sunk to sad silence, and the hearts which were wont to rejoice, expressed the bitterness of auguish.

Every thing in nature is here considered superior to and more happy than Israel: the birds have nests, the foxes have holes, mankind in general possessed their country, and concludes that there is no rest for the children of Judah but in the silent grave.

"Israel but the grave." Throughout the composition of these melodies, it will be observed by the attentive reader, that Lord Byron has exhibited a peculiar feeling of commiseration towards the Jews. He was entirely free from the prevalent prejudices against that unhappy and oppressed race of men. On this subject, he has frequently remarked, that he deemed the existence of the Jews, as a distinct race of men, the most wonderful instance of the ill effects of persecution. Had they been kindly, or even honestly, dealt by in the early ages of their dispersion, they might, in his lordship's opinion, have amalgamated with society, in the same manner as all other sects and parties have done.

That a period of about 1800 years should have clapsed, and that these people should still preserve their religion, their laws, and their customs, in defiance of ecclesiastical and civil appression, does indeed seem astonishing; but less so, when the effect of his lordship's observation is sufficiently understood. On one occasion he remarked, "unfortunate men, surrounded by enemies, among whom they are compelled to live; oppressed, scorned, and outcast: condemned as criminal, because they cannot succumb to their oppressors, nor see the justice of that religion which is perverted to their injury." The last line of these stauzas he sometimes repeated with a feeling of melancholy sincerity.

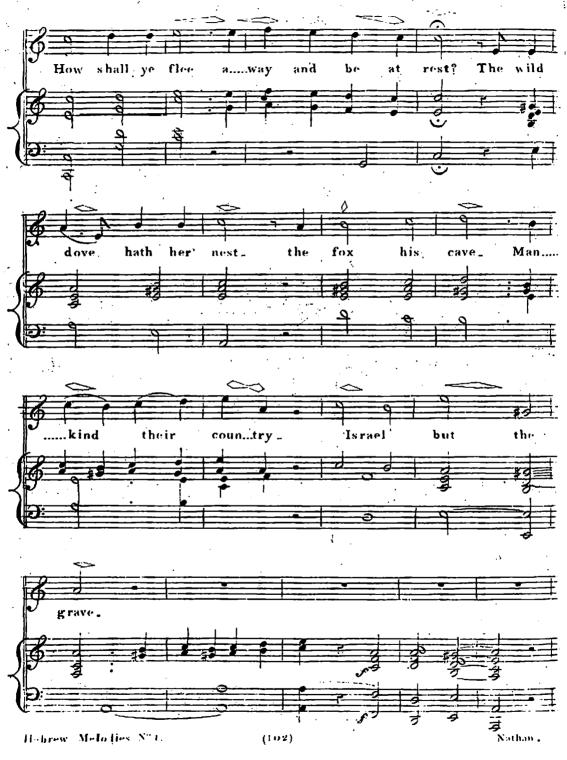
This liberality of sentiment of Lord Byron was not confined to the Jows alone, but his lordship often regretted the truly distressed state of Ireland: "two-thirds of that unhappy country," he observed, "had laboured for ages to obtain that liberty which was only extended to one-third part of its population, and he hoped a time would arrive, when religious distinctions in political matters would not prove a barrier to preferment in that country: till which period, Ireland would never cordially coalesce with Great Britain, but continue, as it had been, the scene of bloodshed, anarchy, and confusion."

Wast for these!









Mach for these?













SELECTION

OP

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BY

I. NATHAN.

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RY

LORD BYRON.



The herp the monarch minstrel swept,
The King of men, the loved of Heaven,
Which, Musse hellow'd while she weps
O'er tones her bears of hearts had giv'n,
Redoubled be her team—its chords are rival

Lond Brack. See page 97.

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ON JORDAN'S BANKS.

On Jordan's banks the Arabs' camels stray,
On Sion's hill the false one's votaries pray,
The Baal adorer bows on Sinai's steep,
Yet there, even there, Oh God t thy thinders sleep.

There, where thy finger scorch'd the tablet stone! There, where thy shadow to thy people shone! Thy glory shrouded in its garb of fire! Thyself, none living see and not expire!

Oh! in the lightning let thy glance appear!

Sweep from his shiver'd hand the oppressor's apear!

How long by tyrants shall thy land be trod?

How long thy temple worshipless? oh God!

The banks of Jordan, and the passage of that fiver, made a lovelble and lasting impression on the children of Israel on their leaving Egypt for the promised land; and to find that devoted spot in the hands of infidels excites all the pangs of remorse at its recollection; and it is here a source of sorrow and lamentation that the camels of the Arab should stray near the banks of that river. The worshippers of Baal are also looked upon with abhorronce, as if polluters of the holy mount.

The thunder of God, and the sublime mainer in which the Commandments were delivered to Moses, is no less appreciated; the garb of fire, symbolical of the supreme grandeur, is presented to the eye of the understanding, arrayed in all the dignity of supernatural worth, impossible to be seen by frail, transient, and dependent beings.

The conclusion is truly sublime, invoking the divine vengeance on the intruders upon those sacred places, and trusting to the justice of God in driving the tyrannical infidel from the temples and sacred places of the Jews.

"Yet there, even there." Lord Byron here observed, that he had only followed the style of all the orthodox, in supplicating the Supreme Power to the guardianship of the Holy Land: he frequently expressed his desire of seeing the spot which was the theatre of the most important acts that ever influenced the interests of mankind. "A prophet has no honor in his own country?" said he, "for there even there can be found no trace of times gone by, even there exists the wildness of superstition."

"How long by tyrants," &c. On these lines he remarked that it seemed as though an irrevocable malediction had been passed on the enslaved regions of Judah; yet, had the crusades been now projected, he knew not that he would be able to refrain from joining in an effort which, though perserted, was in itself calculated to enlighten the wretched slaves of the East. His lordship's subsequent conduct, in joining the standard of independence in Greece, has sufficiently evinced the ardent love of liberty which influenced all his actions.

OH, SNATCH'D AWAY IN BEAUTY'S BLOOM.

Oh, snatch'd away in beauty's bloom!
On thee shall press no ponderous tomb,
But on thy turf shall roses rear.
Their leaves, the carliest of the year,
And the wild cypress wave in tender gloom.

And oft by you blue gushing stream,
Shall sorrow lean her drooping head,
And feed deep thought with many a dream,
And lingering pause, and lightly tread,
Fond wretch! as if her step disturb'd the dead.

Away, we know that tears are vain,
That death nor heeds nor hears distress:
Will this unteach us to complain?
Or make one mourner weep the less?
And thou, who tell'st me to forget,
Thy looks are wan, thine eyes are wet.

Any critical remarks on the exquisite beauty of these lines would be superfluous: it is not known to whom they refer. In submitting the melody to his lordship's judgment, I once inquired in what manuer they might refer to any scriptural subject: he appeared for a moment affected; at last replied, "Every mind must make its own reference: there is scarcely one of us who could not imagine that the affliction belongs to himself, to me it certainly belongs." His lordship here, with agitation, exclaimed, "She is no more, and perhaps the only vestige of her existence is the feeling I sometimes foundly indulge."







Hebrew Melodies. Nº 2.

(103)

Nathan.







Hebrew Meladies, Nº 2,

(103)

Nathan.















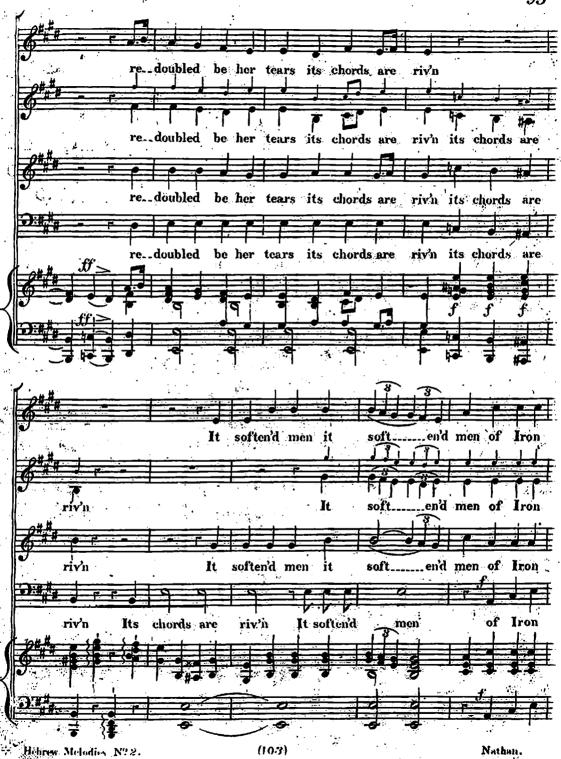


Nathan .

91 MAESTOSO. SOPRANO. The harp harp the Counter Tenor or 24 SOPRANO. the The TENOR. The harp. harp BASS. The harp. the harp the monarch PIANO FORTE.

"Hite Malana Von













THE HARP THE MONARCH MINSTREL SWEPT.

TAAN THEE WEER

The harp the monarch minstrel swept,
The king of men, the loved of Heav'n,
Which Music hallow'd while she wept
O'er tones her heart of hearts had given,
Redoubled be her tears, its chords are riven!
It soften'd men of iron mould,
It gave them virtues not their own;
No ear so dull, no soul so cold,
That felt not, fired not to the tone,
Till David's lyre grew mightier than his throne!

It told the triumplis of our king,

It wasted glory to our God:

It made our gladdened vallies ring,

The cedars bow, the mountains nod;

Its sound aspired to Heaven and there abode!

Since then, though heard on earth no more,

Devotion and her daughter Love.

Still bid the bursting spirit soar in the sounds of the sounds that seem as from above,

In dreams that day's broad light cannot remove.

The harp is an instrument of great antiquity, and was not considered derogatory to the kings and princes of Old Testament times. This was the favorite instrument of King David, and resorted to on all great and joyous occasions. The harp also was an instrument used in sacred matters, to rouge the mind to devotional gladness, and raise the soul from sublunary things to the throne of God himself.

David, in speaking of the powers of music, makes the coders to bow, and the mountains figuratively moved by its influence, as being irresistible. This is not only a favorite theme of King David, but the powers of music and its general influence have been duly appreciated by every ago and nation.

The rapidity with which Lord Byron wrote must be sufficiently obvious from the number of his works, the kest of which were generally the most hustily composed. The words of this melody have been greatly and deservedly admired; yet the circumstances that attended the composition of the latter lines may be interesting. When his lordship put the copy into my hand, it terminated thus

"Its sound aspired to Heaven, and there abode."

This, however, did not complete the verse, and I wished him to help out the melody. He-replied, "Why I have sent you to Heaven, it would be difficult to go farther." My attention for a few moments was called to some other person, and his lordship, whom I had hardly missed, exclaimed, "Here, Nathan, I have brought you down again," and immediately presented me the beautiful and sublime lines which conclude the melody.

1 SAW THEE WEEP.

gregor forman i amerikana bilo oli vat 18 forma oli mareni oli sumat tempit limbet 18 maja olika attilla ili va limbet limbet oli 18

JANAMS BARRADA DAMAN AN SHIPTON AT

I saw thee weep, the big bright tear
Came o'er that eye of blue;
And then methought it did appear
A violet dropping dew:
I saw thee smile, the sapphire's blaze
Beside thee ceased to shine;
It could not match the living rays
That fill'd each glance of thine.

As clouds from yonder sun receive

A deep and mellow dye,

Which scarce the shade of coming eve
Can banish from the sky;

Those smiles unto the moodiest mind
Their own pure joy impart;

Their sunshine leaves a glow behind
That lightens o'er the heart.

Court auditor lancations, with their

In this amatory effusion there is a fine distinction between opposite feelings, the tear of female beauty beclouding the screene bliss of happy repose; whilst, on the other hand, the smile blazes through the encumbered atmosphere, and buries in oblivion all the traces of former sorrow, imparting reciprocally the joys of a terrestrial paradise.

Lord Byron often made a dissortation on the organ of sight, always eulogizing the characteristic expression of the eye: "in that organ," his lordship frequently observed, "are developed the inward feelings of the heart, and I put more faith in the language thus tacitly expressed, than all the fallacious rules of Lavator, Gall, or Spurzheim."

Nathun .

Transthe weeks.

tan Str. Hall. ANDANTE. saw thee weep the big bright tear, Came o'er that eye of

(108)

Hebrew Metadies 89 2.

















JAOU MANAG AHT

angot sana çûr, mitre en epite sana tegene.

My soul is dark, Oh! quickly string.

The harp I yet can brook to hear.

And let thy gentle fingers fling.

Its melting murmurs o'er mine ear.

If in this heart a hope be dear.

That sound shall charm it forth again,

If in these eyes there lurk a tear.

Twill flow, and cease to burn my brain.

But bid the strain be wild and deep,
Nor let thy notes of joy be first,
I tell thee, Minstrel! I must weep,
Or else this heavy heart will burst,
For it hath been by sorrow nurst,
And ached in sleepless silence long,
And now tis doom d to know the worst
And break at once; or yield to song.

The darkness of the soul is a phrase not thoroughly explained, but it was no doubt a transferit melancholy which absorbed the rational faculties, and rendered the individual over whom it had influence, exceedingly metched.

When the evil spirit of the Lord came upon Saul, he had recourse to the charms of music for the removal of the maledy, and Lord Byron in this melody paints the effects of music as producing a species of joy emerging from melancholy.

Demnid is led to contemplate the otmost pange of grief gradually accomulating till the mortal frame on south is lead no longer, when it bursts forth in a torrent of tears, which relieves the unhappy sufferer.

It was generally conceived, that Lord Byron's reported singularities approached on some occasions to decangement; and at one period, indeed, it was very currently asserted, that his intellects were actually implicit. The report only served to approach his lordship. "He referred to the circumstance, and declared, that his property in the report only served to approach his lordship." He referred to the circumstance, and declared, that his content his content his content of a moment fixed his eyes to majestic wildness on vacancy; when, like a flash of inspiration, without crasing a single word, the above remes were the result, which he put into my possession with this romark. "If I am mad who write, be above remes were the result, which he put into my possession with this romark." If I am mad who write, be above remes were the result, which he put into my possession with this romark. "If I am mad who write, be above remes were the result, which he put into my possession with this romark." If I am mad who write, be above remeable of him they were, however, transitory, and became afterwards the subject of his jocularity and wit.

ANY SOUL IS DARK.

Thy days are done, thy fame begun;
Thy country's strains record
The triumphs of her chosen son,
The slaughters of his sword!
The slaughters of his sword!
The deeds lie did, the fields he won?
The freedom he restored!
The greedom he restored!
Though thou art fall newhile we are free,
Thou shalt not taste of deaths and?
The generous blood that flow d from thee
Within our veins its currents be;
Thy spirit on our breath!

Thy name, our charging hosts along,
Shall be the battle word!
Thy fall, the theme of choral song,
From virgin voices pour d!
To weep would do thy glory wrong.
Thou shalt not be deplored.

Lord. Byron, in this melody, has some reference to a fallen warrior, whose deeds remain a monument to his memory, and though dead to the world, he still leaves a lasting impression on the minds of the living.

This brings foreign to my recollection a convension with Lord Byron, to which the above verses gave rise.

His lordship touched upon the merits of the different warriors of Greece and Rome with much warmth, Hannibal, Cresar, Alexander the Great, and even those of the Old Testament times: but at last dilated on the comparative merits of Bounparte. "Had Napoleon," said his lordship, "been less ambitious, he was no doubt firmly seated on the throne, and would have been one of the greatest men of the age." I remarked that "there we various opinions as to his conduction. Waterfoo, some sugmatizing human; a coward in desting the field, others hailing it as a clear specimen of cool intrapidity; the former, my lord, seems, from your late poem, to have been your lordship's opinion."

Lord Byron remarked, that "had Napoleon died in the field at Waterloo, his end would have been more in mison, with his former incredit cases." I submitted that, its takings into consideration the ambigion of Napoleon his future gradual presenting life might have been the possibility of being consideration that throne of France; and of securing to his son a lineal succession.

"Nathan." returned his lordehip, "you seem auxious to support the credit of a great man; but I must repeal that Napoleon grould have ranked higher in future history, had he even like your venerable ancestor Saul; on mount Gilbos, or like a second Cato, fallen on his sword; and finished his mortal career at Waterloo."

His lordship here gave me a significant look as if reading my abhorrence of any thing like self-destruction, and said, "bear in mind, Nathan, that I do not by this remark wish by any means to become the patron of suicide."











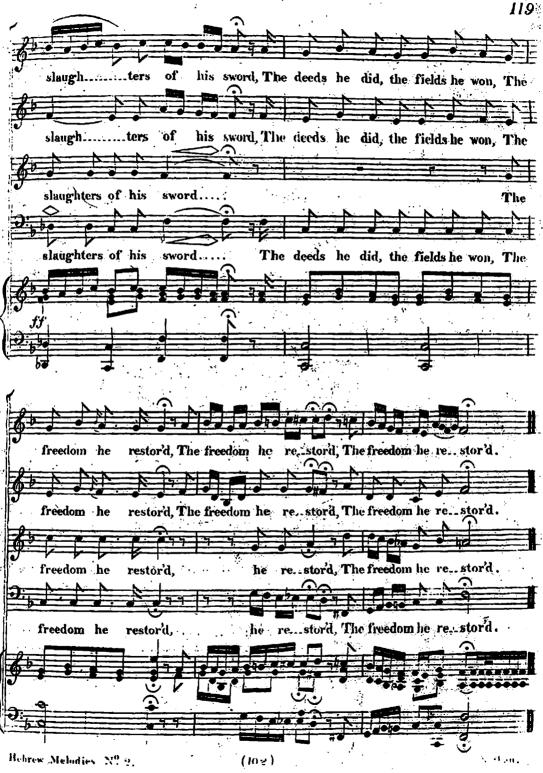


Thy Days are dine























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No. 4, Which is preparing for press, will complete the Hebrew Melodies.













WARRIORS AND CHIEFS. MOC. MYAR HW

SAUL before his last Battle.

Warriors and Chiefs! should the shaft or the sword, Pierce me in leading the host of the Lord, with Heed not the corse, though a king's, in your path:

Bury your steel in the bosoms of Gath 1999!

Nogle of the Morent Lore Leile WKI

Thou who art bearing my buckler and bow, !! !! Should the soldiers of Saul look away from the foc, Stretch me that moment in blood at thy feet.!!! Mine be the doom which they dared not to meet.

Farewell to others, but never we part,
Heir to my royalty, son of my heart!
Bright is the diadem, boundless the sway, Heart!
Or kingly the death, which awaits us to day!

The circumstances which attended the accumulated miseries of Saul, seemed even to affect Lord Byron. Although the result of it was hailed by the Jewish governors, as most happy to the nation, and entirely consonant with the will of the Almighty, there could not, in a justly reflecting mind such as his Lordship's, but appear reason for respect even in condemnation.

in the figure of the control of the second o

It is indeed remarkable, that in whatever has fallen from his pen upon the subject of this unhappy monarch's fall, he appears to delight in giving him at least the honor which the portraiture of his character might claim. The foregoing stanzas cannot be passed unnoticed, as they gave rise to a remark of his Lordship, which is worthy of record: it was in substance as follows:

"That man is not to be utterly despised as a coward whom supernatural evils have worn down; nor is it difficult to account for the subsequent weakness of Saul, who was once gloriously surrounded by strength, power, and the approbation of his God, when we perceive that he had sunk from this, to a reliance on his own exertions even for safety. The confidence he possesses; the power he beholds, were all blighted ere he sunk to pusillanimity; in spite of which, I cannot but uphold him originally a brave and estimable man. That he cherished the man fated to destroy him, was more his misfortune than his fault.

In concordance with this opinion, it is necessary to observe, that the foregoing verses were written, and the line "heed not the corse, though a king's, in your path," speaks more than volumes could, from the pen of a puny enlogist of the day.

Hebrew Melodies, Nº 3. (104)

WE SATE DOWN AND WEPT BY THE WATERS OF BABEL.

" By the Rivers of Babylon we sate down and wept."

We sate down and wept by the waters
Of Babel, and thought of the day
When our foc, in the huc of his slaughters,
Made Salem's high places his prey;
And ye, oh her desolate daughters!
Were scattered all weeping away.

While sadly we gazed on the river
Which roll'd on in freedom below,
They demanded the song; but, oh never
That triumph the stranger shall know!
May this right hand be withered for ever,
Ere it string our high harp for the foe!

On the willow that harp is suspended,
Oh Salem! its sound should be free;
And the hour when thy glories were ended
But left me that token of thee:
And ne'er shall its soft tones be blended
With the voice of the spoiler by me!

Lord Byron observed, in my singing this melody, "Why, Nathan, you enter spiritedly into the oriental feeling; recollect, however, that although you captivate, you are no captive; and with all due submission to the Babylonians, I think their levity was ill-timed in trying to extort might from sorrow."

[&]quot;They demanded the song."—The ancient celebrity of the Jews with regard to their musical powers, is strikingly set forth in this stanza; the words though different, have a close affinity to the original. The Jews, when carried captives to Babylon, and mouraing the loss of their country and their holy mountain, were solicited by the Babylonians, who were well acquainted with their powers, to sing one of their songs of Zion, to which the captives replied, "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land," and with firmness reverted to the land they had left, saying, "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her curning."

WE SAT DOWN & WELT BY THE WATERS OF BABEL

















HERODS LAMENT FOR MARIAMNE.

Ent. Sta. Hall.

Price 2/

Poet, Lord Byron.

Composer, I. Nathan.













HEROD'S LAMENT FOR MARIAMNE.

On, Marianne! now for thee
The heart for which thou bled'st is bleeding;
Revenge is lost in agony,
And wild remorse to rage succeeding.
Oh, Marianne! where art thou?
Thou canst not hear my bitter pleading:
Ah, could'st thou—thou would'st pardon now,
Tho' Heaven were to my prayer unheeding.

And is she dead?—and did they dare
Obey my phrenzy's jealous raving?
My wrath but doom'd my own despair:
The sword that smote her's o'er me waving.—
But thou art cold, my murdered love!
And this dark heart is vainly craving
For her who sours alone above,
And leaves my soul unworthy saving.

She's gone, who shared my diadem;
She sunk, with her my joys entombing:
I swept that flower from Judah's stem
Whose leaves for me alone were blooming.
And mine's the guilt, and mine the hell,
This bosom's desolation dooming;
And I have carn'd those tortures well,
Which unconsumed are still consuming!

The agonies of grief are expressed in this melody with the full force of imagery so natural in Lord Byron's writings.

Herod is deeply touched with the pangs of remorse for the rash act he had committed; the sense of Mariamne's innocence stands arrayed before him in vivid colours, and calls forth those ravings of phrenzy which rendered his existence truly miscrable; the pleasures of the past recoil upon his recollection, he curses his existence, and from this period all happiness is for ever banished from his breast.

Although the following ancedote may tell rather to my disadvantage, I cannot resist the impulse of committing to paper any point that may assist me in establishing the aniable qualities which Lord Byron really possessed, and more especially as this tends to show his gentlemanly compliance, and readiness to make proper and just allowances for unconscious and unintentional offences.

At the time his Lordship was writing for me the poetry to these melodies, he felt anxious to facilitate my views in preserving as much as possible the original airs, for which purpose he would frequently consult me regarding the style and metre of his stanzas. I accordingly desired to be favored with so many lines, some pathetic, some playful, others martial, &c. One evening, when his Lordship was obligingly submitting to my wishes in that respect, I unfortunately (while absorbed for a moment in wordly affairs) requested so many dull lines—meaning plaintine. His Lordship, observing that I was wrupt up in deep meditation, and understanding my real meaning, instantly caught at the expression, which so much tickled his fancy, that he was convulsed with laughter, and exclaimed, "Well, Nathan! you have at length set me an easy-task." This afforded him anusement for the rest of the evening, and observing my confusion whenever his eye met mine, he would occasionally make some witty allusion to the dull lines, until I enjoyed the joke equally with himself. The result; however, proved very fortunate for me, for before we parted he presented me these beautifully pathetic lines, saying. "Here, Nathan, I think you will find these dull enough."

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THE VISION OF BELSHAZZAR.

The king was on his throne. The Satraps throng'd the hall; A thousand bright lamps shone O'er that high festival. A thousand cups of gold, In Judah deem'd divine-Jehovah's vessels hold The godless Heathen's wine! In that same hour and hall, The fingers of a hand Came forth against the wall, And wrote as if on sand: The fingers of a man;— A solitary hand Along the letters ran, And traced them like a wand. The monarch saw, and shook, And bade no more rejoice; All bloodless wax'd his look, And tremulous his voice. "Let the men of lore appear, "The wisest of the earth, "And expound the words of fear, "Which mar our royal mirth." Chaldea's seers are good, But here they have no skill; And the unknown letters stood Untold and awful still. And Babel's men of age Are wise and deep in lore; But now they were not sage, They saw-but knew no more. A captive in the land. A stranger and a youth, He heard the king's command, He saw that writing's truth. The lamps around were bright, The prophecy in view; He read it on that night,— The morrow proved it true. "Belshazzar's grave is made, 🦠 " His kingdom pass'd away, "He in the balance weighed, "Is light and worthless clay. "The shroud, his robe of state, "His canopy, the stone; "The Mede is at his gate! "The Persian on his throne!"

Lord Byron in this inclody draws forth the rational faculties, and fixes them upon a supernatural phantom. A spacious hall decorated with all the splendour of eastern pomp, illuminated with a thousand lamps, the tables covered with massy caps of gold, and every luxury which Belshazzar could procure for his guests: when lo, in the midst of festivity, the vision of a hand writing upon the wall excites terror in every breast, the monarch trembles with fear, conscious that it portends some great calamity; his Lordship then closes with a train of miseries; Belshazzar divested of the robe of state, stripped of his possessions, slain, and the Medes and Persians in possession of his kingdom.

THE VISION OF BELSHAZZAR,

Ent Sta. Hall.

Dia 2/6

Poet Lord Byron.

Composer, I. Nathan.















FRANCISCA

T Sm. Ball.

Prese 21

Poet Lord Byron,

Composer, L. Nafhan.



















PRANCISCA.

But it is not to gaze on the heavenly light—
But if she sits in her garden bower,
"Tis not for the sake of its blowing flower.
She listens—but not for the nightingale,
Though her car expects as soft a tale.
There winds a step through the foliage thick,
And her check grows pale—and her heart beats quick.
There whispers a voice thro' the rustling leaves,
And her blush returns—and her bosom heaves:
A moment more—and they shall meet—
"Tis past—her Lover's at her feet.

The feelings of suspense are here well pourtrayed. Francisca waiting in solltary anxiety the arrival of her lover i the heautiful notes of the nightingale are lost upon her car; the mind dwells upon one theme, until the expected footsteps are heard, when the pain of the past is lost in the Elysium of present feeling.

FROM THE LAST HILL THAT LOOKS ON THY ONCE HOLY DOME.

On the Day of the Destruction of Jerusalem by Titus.

From the last hill that looks on thy once holy dome I beheld thee, Oh Sion! when rendered to Rome: "Twas thy last sun went down, and the flames of thy fall Flash'd back on the last glance I gave to thy wall.

I look'd for thy temple, I look'd for my home,
And forgot for a moment my bondage to come;
I beheld but the death-fire that fed on thy fane,
And the fast fetter'd hands that made vengeance in vain.

On many an eve, the high spot whence I gazed Had reflected the last beam of day as it blazed: While I stood on the height, and beheld the decline Of the rays from the mountain that shone on thy shrine.

And now on that mountain I stood on that day, But I marked not the twilight beam melting away; Oh! would that the lightning had glared in its stead, And the thunderbolt burst on the conqueror's head!

But the Gods of the Pagan shall never profance.

The string where Jehovah disdain'd not to reign;

And scattered and scorn'd as thy people may be,

Our worship, oh Father! is only for thee.

Connected as the subject of this melody is with the fulfilment of the most completely verified prophecy, it cannot but be supposed that it greatly interested the mind of the writer. The destruction of that venerable city, which was peculiarly the object of divine guardianship, involved in all the horrors that pareallel miseries can furnish to our imaginations, and the conviction that one stone no longer lay on the other, strike the reflective and considerate mind with awe; nor are the circumstances attendant on the destruction of Jerusalem more remarkable for the extent of the misery concomitant with its fall, than for the decisive proof they afford of the verity of those prophecies, which in that event were realised.

Whatever the world may feel disposed to think or to say of the religious principles of Lord Byron, it would not be just in me to allow any opportunity of elucidating his sentiments on that subject, to escape me; and to his calumniators it is but proper to say, that he never entertained that latitude of principle they so liberally ascribe to him.

In the composition of the foregoing stanzas, he professed to me, that he had always considered the fall of Jerusalem, as the most remarkable event of all history; "for," (in his own words) "who can behold the entire destruction of that mighty pile; the desolute wanderings of its inhabitants, and compare these positive occurrences with the distant prophecies which foreran them, and be an infidel?"

I was struck at the moment with this remark, the more especially, perhaps, as at that very period, the press seemed to make common cause in admiration of his genius, and vituperation of his principles; and I feel pleasure in being enabled to do him this posthumous justice, by contradicting for him, that which I believe he was too proud and too confident in the noble integrity of his own heart to notice.

PROM THE LAST HILL THAT LOOKS ON THY ONCE HOLY DOME.















FAME, WISDOM, LOVE & POWER,

Ent Sta Hull

Price 2

Poet, Lord Byron,

Composer, J. Nathan.











FAME, WISDOM, LOVE, AND POWER WERE MINE.

" All is Vanity suith the Preacher."

Fame, wisdom, love, and power were mine,
And health and youth possess'd me;
My goblets blush'd from every vine,
And lovely forms caress'd me;
I sunn'd my heart in beauty's eyes,
And felt my soul grow tender;
All earth can give, or mortal prize,
Was mine of regal splendour.

I strive to number o'er what days
Remembrance can discover,
Which all that life or earth displays
Would lure me to live over.
There rose no day, there roll'd no hour
Of pleasure unembittered;
And not a trapping deck'd my power
That gall'd not while it glittered.

The serpent of the field, by art
And spells, is won from harming;
But that which coils around the heart,
Oh! who hath power of charming?
It will not list to wisdom's lore,
Nor music's voice can lure it;
But there it sting's for evermore
The soul that must endure it.

Lord. Byron in these beautiful verses treats in a masterly manner, the varieties and transient uncertainty of Jauman enjoyments: he commences with the young man launching into life, with all that wealth and splendour can bestow.

The second is no less striking, when the middle stage of life commences; we are still addicted to the pleasure of the past, and when the shadows of old age assail us at a distance, the noble poet recoils at the past, and wishes rather to recode than to advance.

The last verse has a fine allusion to the charming of the screent, figuratively expressed in the scriptures, in which his Lordship does not wish to infringe upon the credulity of the expression as it really stands, and concludes in a strain which clearly paints the miseries attendant on human happiness: that they begin—rise to a certain perfection—then moulder and decay.

THE DESTRUCTION OF SEMNACHERIB.

THE Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold, And his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold; And the sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea, When the blue waves roll nightly on deep Galilee. Like the leaves of the forest when Summer is green, That host with their banners at sunset were seen; Like the leaves of the forest when Autumn hath blown, That host on the morrow lay withered and strown.

For the Angel of Denth spread his wings on the blast, And breathed in the face of the foc as he pass'd, And the eyes of the sleepers wax'd deadly and chill. And their hearts but once heav'd, and for ever grew still! And there lay the steed with his nostril all wide, But through it there roll'd not the breath of his pride; And the foam of his gasping lay white on the turf, And cold as the spray of the rock-beating surf.

And there lay the rider distorted and pale,
With the dew on his brow, and the rust on his mail;
And the tents were all silent, the banners alone,
The lances unlifted, the trumpet unblown.
And the widows of Ashur are loud in their wail,
And the idols are broke in the temple of Baal;
And the might of the Gentile, unsmote by the sword,
Hath melted-like snow in the glance of the Lord!

Lord-Byron places before the imagination a powerful Army arrayed in a warlike manner, with that pomp so prevalent in Eastern countries: the ferocious appearance of the cohorts is well defined; flushed with ardour and impetuosity in the conflict, till at last consigned to destruction, they lie lifeless on the field, and the horse and his rider are doomed to the same inevitable destruction.

and the second

At Jast, the stillness of death prevades the whole scene; the trumpet is no longer heard; the estentations banners are lowered; and the idols of Baal are broken to pieces. The whole forms a fine picture of human life; we are ushered into this world; we experience the trials and vicissitudes incident to human enjoyments, till death, that grim tyrant, puts a period to the whole.

THE DESTRUCTION OF SEMNACHERIB.

Ent Sta Hall.

Price 2/6

Port, Lord Byron.

Composer, I. Nathan.



















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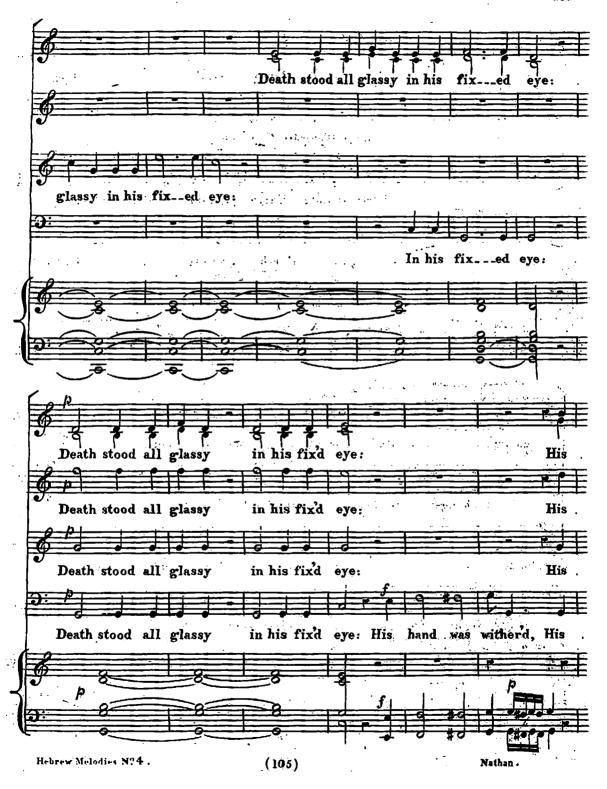
FOR 5 VOICES...



















Hebrew Meladies Nº4.



(105)

Nathan .





THOU WHOSE SPELL CAN RAISE THE DEAD.

SAUL.

Thou, whose spell can raise the dead,

Bid the prophet's form appear.

"Samuel, raise thy buried head!

King, behold the phantom seer!"

Earth yawn'd; he stood the centre of a cloud:

Light changed its hue, retiring from his shroud.

Death stood all glassy in the fixed eye;

His hand was wither'd, and his veins were dry;

His foot, in hony whiteness, glitter'd there.

His toot, in bony whiteness, glitter'd there, Shrunken, and sinewless, and ghastly bare: From lips that moved not, and unbreathing frame,

Like cavern'd winds the hollow accents came. Saul saw, and fell to earth, as falls the oak, At once, and blasted by the thunder-stroke.

" Why is my sleep disquicted? Who is he that calls the dead? Is it thou, Oh King? Behold, · Bloodless are these limbs, and cold: Such are mine; and such shall be Thine, to-morrow, when with me: Ere the coming day is done, Such shalt thou be, such thy son. Fare thee well, but for a day; Then we mix our mouldering clay. Thou, thy race, lie pale and low, Pierced by shafts of many a bow; And the faulchion by thy side To thy heart thy hand shall guide: Crownless, breathless, headless, fall Son and sire, the house of Saul!"

Whatever subject may occupy the attention of a great mind is worthy of record. In the composition of the sublime lines which form the foregoing Melody I had frequent opportunities of conversation with Lord Byron, in which, without any intention of recalling the exploded crime of witcheraft to the reader's remembrance, it must be observed that his Lordship felt some reluctance to add anything—even his imagination—to the establishment of a belief so fatal to old women in Judge Hale's time. On delivering the lines, he reverted to that subject even with a feeling of indignation (not very usual with him), and told me it was somewhat difficult to touch on such a history without in some degree encountering the contempt of the moderns, who deservedly execuated the cruel judges who thought proper to execute a law on witches. My reply was, that whatever he had written on that subject must preserve him from contempt. How far he has succeeded in rendering the situation one of sublime effect is not necessary for me to observe. I felt a difficulty in the composition, because I saw the height of beauty his lines had reached, and I trembled least he had soured too high for my imagination's accompaniment: it was therefore with some apprehension I rohearsed the composition to him, and I scarcely need add what dolight I felt in discovering his Lordship's enthusiasm in the repetition of his own writing. "Why is my sleep disquicted," &c., continued after its performance, and he declared that the passage would haunt him. With perfect good humour he assured me the next morning that he had greeted some early intruder with what he could recollect of that passage. It is hoped I shall be pardoned when I confess that my vanity was highly gratified at this declaration, but my curiosity to know who the unwelcome visitor was predominated: his Lordship, however, anticipating my desire on that subject, exclaimed, "Come, Nathan, do not imagine that I have been honoured by an interview with Lady Endor, or with Samuel's vision:—the intruder that greeted me was no hobgoblin, I assure you; it was only Douglas Kinnaird."

I SPEAK NOT — I TRACE NOT — I BREATHE NOT.

I SPBAK not—I trace not—I breathe not thy name,
There is grief in the sound—there were guilt in the fame;
But the tear which now burns on my cheek may impart
The deep thought that dwells in that silence of heart.

Too brief for our passion, too long for our peace, Were those hours, can their joy or their bitterness cease? We repent—we abjure—we will break from our chain; We must part—we must fly to—unite it again.

Oh! thine be the gladness and mine be the guilt. Forgive me adored one—forsake if thou wilt;
But the heart which I bear shall expire undebased,
And man shall not break it—whatever thou may'st,

And stern to the haughty, but humble to thee,
My soul in its bitterest blackness shall be;
And our days seem as swift—and our moments more sweet
With thee by my side—than the world at our feet.

One sigh of thy sorrow—one look of thy love Shall turn me or fix, shall reward or reprove; And the heartless may wonder at all we resign, Thy lip shall reply not to them—but to mine.

Many of the best poetical pieces of Lord Byron, having the least amatory feeling, have been strangely distorted by his calumniators, as if applicable to the lamented circumstances of his latter life.

The foregoing verses were written more than two years previously to his marriage; and, to show how averse his Lordship was from touching in the most distant manner upon the theme which might be deemed to have a personal allusion, he requested mo, the morning before he last left London, either to suppress the verses entirely, or to be caroful in putting the date when they were originally written.

At the close of his Lordship's injunction Mr. Leigh Hunt was announced, to whom I was for the first time introduced, and at his request I sang "O Marimane" and this Melody, both of which he was pleased to culogize; but his Lordship again observed, "Notwithstanding my own partiality to the air, and the encomiums of an excellent judge, yet I must adhere to my former injunction."

Observing his Lordship's auxiety, and fully appreciating the noble feeling by which that anxiety was augmented, I acquiesced, in signifying my willingness to withhold the Melody altogether from the public rather than submit him to any uneasiness. "No, Nathan," ejaculated his Lordship; "I am too great an admiror of your music to suffer a single phrase of it to be lost; I insist that you publish the Melody, but by attaching to it the dato it will answer every purpose, and it will prevent my lying under greater obligations than are absolutely necessary for the liberal encomiums of my friends."

A phrase is a short melody that expresses a musical sentence; a member of a strain or portion of an air. A phrase is in composition what a
foot is in pectry, or like the effect of a comma in punctuation.—See Nathan's Musurgia Vocalis, page 99.







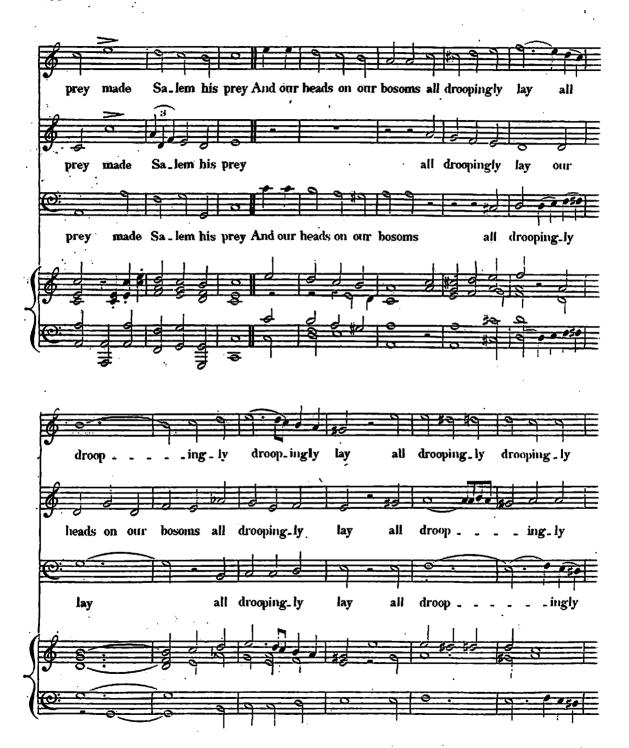




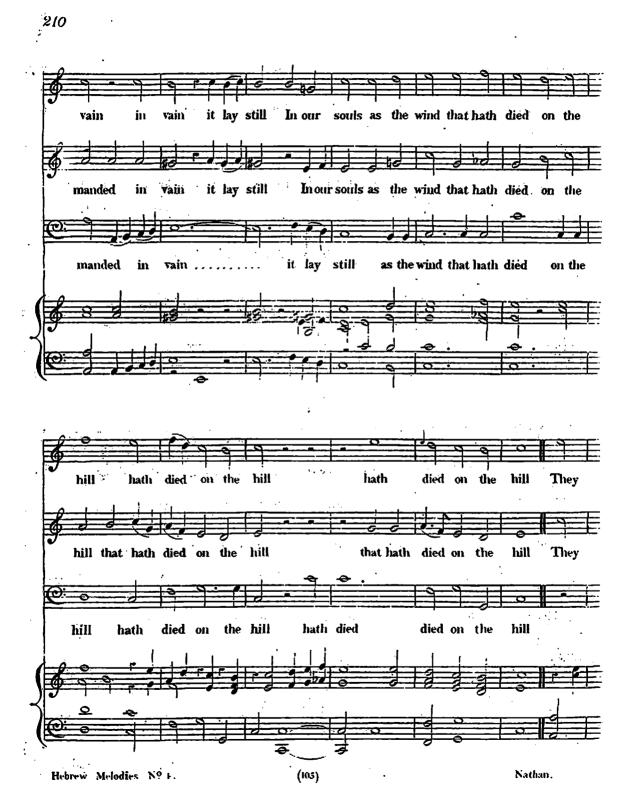




Ent. Sta. Hall. oer the wa ters we wept Val_ley we went o'er the day When the host of the stranger made Salem his prey made When the host of the stranger made Salem his When the host of the stranger made Salem Sa lem his made Hebrew Melodies. Nº 4. Nathan. (105)















IN THE VALLEY OF WATERS.

In the valley of waters we wept o'er the day
When the host of the stranger made Salem his prey,
And our heads on our bosoms all droopingly lay,
And our hearts were so full of the land far away.
The song they demanded in vain—it lay still
In our souls as the wind that hath died on the hill;
They call'd for the harp—but our blood they shall spill
Ere our right hand shall teach them one tone of our skill.
All stringlessly hung on the willow's sad tree,
As dead as her dead leaf those mute harps must be;
Our hands may be fetter'd—our tears still are free,
For our God and our glory—and, Sion!—Oh, thee.

The stranger in any country must be impressed with fresh ideas arising from the survey of fresh objects; when those are of a pleasing nature the result must accord in the sequel.

The high places of Salem are here laid waste by the devastating hand of the barbarian, and the legitimate possessors of the country are driven to a foreign land; but, far from being clovated by the change, their joy is turned into mourning: they looked with sorrow on the rivers of Babylon, and gave vent to their feelings in a torrent of tears. The harp is suspended on the willow-tree as uscless in this new aphero of existence, and, considering the very use of the instrument, a profanation in the land of strangers, still remembering Sion.

The autiquity of music is boautifully depicted by David in many passages, but in the foregoing lines Lord Byron seems thoroughly to appreciate their force of feeling: as a proof how much he valued this passage of Scripture, it will be observed that two Molodies were written by his Lordship on the same subject, very different in words, but equally beautiful, and will serve as a sufficient apology for harmonizing both.

That it was a theme on which his Lordship pondered with great pathos is also finely illustrated in the following lines:—

"So Juan wept as wept the captive Jews
By Babel's waters—still remembering Sion."

When I submitted the MS. composition of this Melody to Lord Byron he seemed surprised, and observed that the subject had already been published. I pointed out the difference of style in my arrangement of them, and likewise how his Lordship had varied the present version. He remarked that, in writing two, he only wished me to make a selection; "but," added he, "I must confess I give a preference to the latter; and, since your music differs so widely from the former, I see no reason why it should not also make its public appearance."

SUN OF THE SLEEPLESS.

Sun of the sleepless! melancholy star!

Whose tearful beam glows tremulously far,

That show'st the darkness thou canst not dispel,

How like art thou to joy remember'd well!

So gleams the past, the light of other days,

Which shines, but warms not with its powerless rays;

A night-beam Sorrow watcheth to behold,

Distinct, but distant—clear—but, oh, how cold!

As a moralist, Lord Byron often calls in the works of nature, and the more sublime parts of the universe, as a proof of the Supreme Being; the harmony of the solar system, the sun, moon, and stars, are duly appreciated, as secondary to their original cause: who can read those sublime lines, and for a moment conceive that his Lordship was the least atheistical in his opinions of things? but, on the contrary, entertained the most exalted feelings and the most sublime ideas in all matters of theology.

In a conversation with Lord Byron, I mentioned to him that several admirers of his writings were sceptical in their judgment as to what his Lordship addressed in this Melody—whether the moon or the evening star, both receiving their light from the sun; to which his Lordship replied, "I see, Nathan, you have been star-gazing, and are now in the clouds; I shall therefore leave the Astronomer Royal to direct you in that matter."

Sun of the sleeplefs!













Then coldness wraps this suffring clay.

For Two Sopranos.















WHEN COLDNESS WRAPS THIS SUFFERING CLAY.

WHEN coldness wraps this suffering clay,
Ah, whither strays the immortal mind?
It cannot die, it cannot stay,
But leaves its darken'd dust behind.
Then, unembodied, doth it trace
By steps each planet's heavenly way?
Or fill at once the realms of space,
A thing of eyes that all survey?

Eternal, boundless, undecay'd,
A thought unseen, but seeing all—
All, all in earth or skies display'd,
Shall it survey, shall it recall:
Each fainter trace that memory holds
So darkly of departed years
In one broad glance the soul beholds,
And all that was at once appears.

Before Creation peopled earth,

Its eyes shall roll through chaos back;
And where the furthest heaven had birth,
The spirit trace its rising track
And where the future mars or makes,
Its glance dilate o'er all to be,
While sun is quench'd or system breaks,
Fix'd in its own eternity:

.

Above or Love, Hope, Hate, or Fear,
It lives all passionless and pure:
An age shall fleet like earthly year;
Its years as moments shall endure.
Away, away, without a wing,
O'er all, through all, its thoughts shall fly;
A nameless and eternal thing,
Forgetting what it was to die.

Atheism is held in such general abhorrence by every class of civilized society, that scarcely any man deres to avow himself an infidel; and when Lord Byron is taxed with such a creed, it must be by those who delight to deal in calumny without the shadow of foundation. What can more clearly prove his belief in the existence of a Supreme Boing, and the immortality of the soul, than the first verse of this poem, which brings everything in heaven, earth, and immensity of space, to prove that there must be a Grand First Cause.

It has been insinuated, in contradiction to Lord Byron's writings, that he wrote mechanically, without any belief in what he advanced; but the soul of the poet is so deeply impressed with the importance of the subject, that he must have given religious matters a more minute research than the illiberal world would wish to give him credit for.

A SPIRIT PASS'D BEFORE ME.

From Job.

A SPIRIT pass'd before me: I beheld
The face of immortality unveil'd.
Deep sleep came down on every eye save mine.
And there it stood,—all formless—but divine:
Along my bones the creeping flesh did quake;
Aud, as my damp hair stiffen'd, thus it spake.

"Is man more just than God? Is man more pure Than He who deems even Seraphs insecure? Creatures of clay—vain dwellers in the dust! The moth survives you, and are ye more just? Things of a day! you wither ere the night, Heedless and blind to Wisdom's wasted light!"

The force of sublimity shown by Lord Byron, when touching upon striking passages of Holy Writ, is particularly fine. The wisdom of Solomon, and the severe trial of Jephtha, are treated by his Lordship with feeling and effect not to be equalled by any other poet; and his admiration of the patient submission of Job is no less forcible in expression and tone.

Being consulted as to his opinion of the authonticity of the Book of Job, he made several evisive replies. I, however, pressed the subject; when he exclaimed, "Nathan, I plainly perceive you are desirous of putting my patience to the test." He at length quaintly observed, "The Book contains an excellent moral lesson; we will therefore not attempt to sap its credit or shake its authonticity;" and, to confirm that his ideas were not grounded upon a superficial view of the subject, sat down, and wrote the foregoing sublime lines.

A Spirit passed before me.













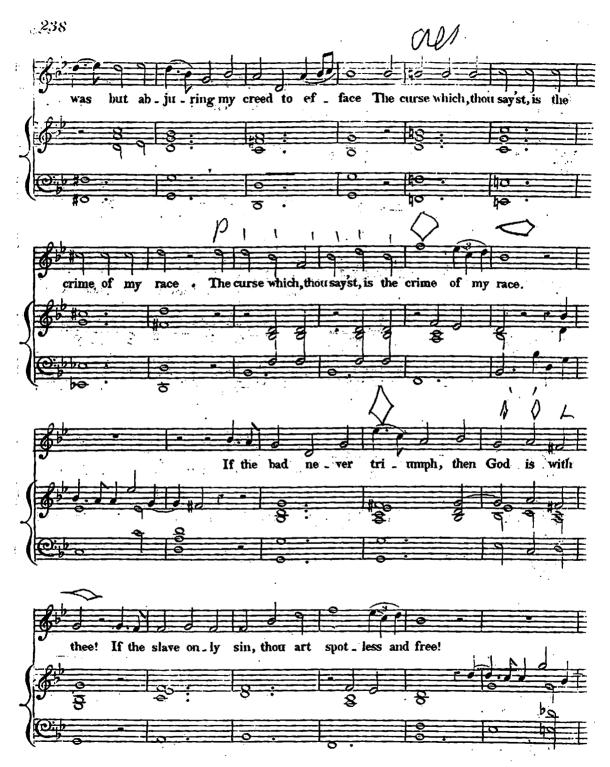
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WERE MY BOSOM AS FALSE AS THOU DEEM'ST IT TO BE.

Wene my bosom as false as thou deem'st it to be, I need not have wander'd from far Galilee; It was but abjuring my creed to efface The curse which, thou say'st, is the crime of my race.

If the bad never triumph, then God is with thee! If the slave only sin, thou art spotless and free! If the Exile on earth is an Outcast on high, Live on in thy faith, but in mine I will die!

I have lost for that faith more than thou canst bestow, As the God who permits thee to prosper doth know; In His hand is my heart and my hope—and in thine The land and the life which for him I resign.

The firmness of faith set forth in this Molody does credit to the general feelings of Lord Byron, in consequence of the re-altered state of the Jows; a feeling which on many occasions he warmly evinced with many liberal remarks.

His Lordship often observed that, notwithstanding the oppressed state of the Jewish nation, though dispersed in every clime, without a fixed country, yet they remain uncontaminated by the creed of any other nation, and retain their original forms of worship with their primitive laws and bonds of union.

"A fabric," observed his Lordship, "on which the lapse of ages has had no power; and, although many seets have risen to their zenith and gone to decay, yet the primitive faith of this people retains every original feature."

The last lines have a forcible allusion to the losses and inconveniences sustained by that people; and at the same time concentrates all hope of alleviation in the power of that God who at first gave them a place in the scale of human existence.

THEY SAY THAT HOPE IS HAPPINESS.

" Felix qui poluit rerum cognoscere causas."-VIROIL.

They say that Hope is happiness—
But genuine Love must prize the past;
And mem'ry wakes the thoughts that bless:
They rose the first—they set the last.
And all that mem'ry loves the most
Was once our only hope to be:
And all that hope adored and lost
Hath melted into memory.

Alas! it is delusion all—
The future cheats us from afar:
Nor can we be what we recal,
Nor dare we think on what we are.

The modesty of genius always appears in the possessor when real merit is taken in the aggregate, and never was more conspicuous than in the porson of Lord Byron.

The foregoing lines were officiously taken up by a person who arrogated to himself some self-importance in criticism, and who made an observation upon their demerits; on which his Lordship quaintly observed, "They were written in haste, and they shall perish in the same manner," and immediately consigned them to the flames. As my music adapted to them, however, did not share the same fate, and having a contrary opinion of anything that might fall from the pen of Lord Byron, I treasured them up, and on a subsequent interview with his Lordship I accused him of having committed suicide in making so valuable a burnt offering; to which his Lordship smilingly replied. "The act seems to inflame you: come, Nathan, since you are displeased with the sacrifice, I give them to you as a peace offering,—use them as you may deem proper."













