Year.	Observation less Theory of *Tab. Reg.*	Residual Error after subtracting Proper Motion and Correction of Place	Motion for Supposed Orbit.	Residual Errors.	Year.	Observation less Theory of *Tab. Reg.*	Residual Error after subtracting Proper Motion and Correction of Place	Motion for Supposed Orbit.	Residual Errors.
	s.	s.	s.	s.		s.	s.	s.	s.
1839	+0.006	+0.020	—0.008	+0.023	1844	—0.073	—0.066	—0.045	—0.028
1840	+0.019	+0.032	—0.017	+0.044	1845	—0.037	—0.031	—0.050	+0.011
1841	+0.026	+0.037	—0.025	+0.056	1846	—0.099	—0.095	—0.054	—0.049
1842	—0.017	—0.007	—0.033	+0.020	1847	—0.083	—0.080	—0.058	—0.031
1843	—0.075	—0.066	—0.039	—0.034					
			Sum of squares of errors,			0.235180	0.075935		0.035942
			Probable error of one year's observation,			0s.077	0s.043		0s.030

NOTE. The errors of the fifth column seem to have a period of about twenty years, or half the period of revolution, which would correspond to the effects of eccentricity of the orbit; but the present state of the observations does not authorize so refined an investigation as that of the eccentricity.

LETTER OF MR. BOND TO THE EDITOR.

Cambridge, October 17, 1850.

THERE seems to be some misapprehension in regard to the name (*Victoria*) which Mr. HIND has proposed to astronomers to distinguish his latest discovered planet.

Victoria was the daughter of Pallas,* and one of the attendants of Jupiter, and therefore the name appears to fulfil the required conditions of a mythological nomenclature.

The incidental circumstance of the Queen of England bearing the same name ought not surely to weigh with American astronomers in opposition to the wishes of Mr. HIND, who, by his skilful and laborious researches, has added three new planets to our knowledge of the solar system.

W. C. BOND.

P. S. In the event of the name Victoria being rejected by foreign astronomers, Mr. HIND has another name, *Clio*, to which the same symbol, a star and laurel-branch (⚹), would apply equally well.

* A giant, — not the goddess, who is believed to have left no children. G.

IT is with regret that the Editor differs from Mr. BOND's authority, but he has reason for believing that the opinion of astronomers in this country is very decidedly opposed to the adoption of the names of sovereigns or other individuals in astronomical nomenclature. There can be no doubt that Mr. HIND's zealous and successful labors not only have invested him with the right to propose names for the planets he has discovered, but entitle every expression of his wishes to great consideration. The name *Clio* can hardly fail to meet with general acceptance. The symbol proposed by Mr. HIND is a star surmounted by a laurel-branch, not surrounded by the laurel-*wreath* of Victory, as stated on page 134.

FROM A LETTER OF PROFESSOR BUSCH, DIRECTOR OF THE KÖNIGSBERG OBSERVATORY, TO THE EDITOR.

Königsberg, 1850, *July* 27.

I INCLOSE you for the *Astronomical Journal* some observations of the occultations of *α Tauri*, April 15, and of *Jupiter*, May 19, 1850, by the moon.

The occultation of *α Tauri* was observed as follows: —

	Königsberg S. T.				Observer.
		h.	m.	s.	
Immersion,	April 15	10	57	43.7	BUSCH.
				43.9	Dr. WICHMANN.
				43.4	Mr. MARTH, stud.
Emersion,		11	47	47.6	BUSCH.

The observation was made by me with a dialytic telescope by PLÖSSL, of four inches aperture, by Dr. WICHMANN with the heliometer, and by Mr. MARTH with a smaller Fraunhofer telescope. The attention of each of us was especially directed to the observation of any phenomena attending the disappearance of the star; but all three observers saw the star, without any gradual diminution of light, *suddenly* vanish, while in its full brilliancy, without leaving the slightest trace. Dr. WICHMANN thought, indeed, that he could perceive repeatedly, some

seconds before the disappearance, a momentary decrease of the light, yet this diminution was but momentary and transient. Since the moon was very near the horizon at the time of the emersion, and the color of its light was scarcely distinguishable from that of the star — I suspect, as I did not see the emersion occur suddenly, that the time given for the observed emersion may be, perhaps, a little too late.

The occultation of *Jupiter* was observed by me while in Dantzic, at the Royal Navigation School of that city, with an equatorial Fraunhofer telescope of four inches aperture belonging to the school. Mr. ALBRECHT, Director of the institution, had the kindness, not only readily to allow me the use of this instrument, but also to determine for the purpose the correction of TIEDE's clock, No. 78, by corresponding altitudes of the sun. The passing clouds and foggy atmosphere, nevertheless, only allowed the observation of *Jupiter's* second limb.

	Dantzic S. T. h. m. s.
Immersion $\mathcal{U}$, II.	11 53 12.2
Emersion " "	13 4 21.7

The last observation I do not consider so reliable as the first.

BUSCH.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE SECOND COMET OF 1850, AND OF PARTHENOPE.

MADE WITH THE FILAR-MICROMETER OF THE WASHINGTON EQUATORIAL.

BY MR. JAMES FERGUSON.

Communicated by Lieutenant MAURY, Director of the Observatory.

[Corrected for refraction.]

SECOND COMET OF 1850.

Date. 1850.	M. T. Washington. h. m. s.	No. Comp.	Comparison-Star.	☄ − ✱ $\Delta\alpha$ m. s.	☄ − ✱ $\Delta\delta$ ′ ″	☄'s apparent α h. m. s.	☄'s apparent δ ° ′ ″	A.
Sept. 16	13 35 44.8	14	Bessel, Z. 452	−0 25.84	− 9 24.33	7 45 22.78	+39 30 55.97	8
17	13 37 44.8	6	Rümker, 2390	−0 30.70	+14 16.62	7 55 42.91	+36 55 46.89	6
Oct. 4	16 54 3.9	7	Weisse X. 224	−2 16.70	− 4 7.36	10 10 55.38	− 4 41 58.65	10
		7	" 229	−2 38.90	− 2 3.40	10 10 55.66	− 4 41 56.82	10
(1) 6	16 59 3.0	12	*a*	+0 18.87	− 8 51.59	10 21 28.47	− 7 44 34.74	9
(1) 7	16 42 56.6	5	Lamont's Zones, 33	−0 36.16	+ 8 3.58	10 26 57.90	− 8 56 13.92	8
8	17 3 19.9	7	Weisse X. 538	+1 15.21	+ 0 48.22	10 31 14.17	−10 15 14.94	9
		7	" 548	+0 54.95	+ 1 8.21	10 31 13.60	−10 15 12.04	9
9	17 7 28.9	3	*b*	+2 32.15	+ 0 9.71	10 36 23.84	−11 24 40.31	7
12	17 19 2.1	2	Weisse X. 879	+2 13.04	+ 3 23.54	10 50 17.20	−14 24 53.96	10

(1) Star of comparison doubtful.

On the 16th and 17th September, the comet faint. On the 4th October, and at the following observations, it was bright, much condensed, and nearly round. It would have been observed more frequently, but for the bright moonlight following the 17th of September, and the constant mists of the mornings in October.

Adopted Mean Places for 1850.0 *of Comparison-Stars.*

✱	Mag.	α h. m. s.	δ ° ′ ″	Authority.
Bessel, Z. 452	9	7 45 47.79	+39 40 33.32	Bessel's Zones.
Rümker 2390	9	7 56 12.81	+36 41 42.87	Rümker's Catalogue.
Weisse X. 224	7	10 13 11.53	− 4 37 40.01	Weisse's Catalogue.
" 229	7	10 13 34.02	− 4 39 51.17	" "
a	9	10 21 9.08	− 7 35 41.33	W. Equatorial diff. from Lal. 20419.
Lamont's Zones 33	8.9	10 27 33.24	− 9 4 16.11	Lamont's Zones.
Weisse X. 538	9	10 29 58.41	−10 16 1.65	Weisse's Catalogue.
" 548	9	10 30 18.11	−10 16 18.76	" "
b	9	10 33 31.16	−11 24 48.70	W. Equatorial diff. from Weisse X. 520.
Weisse X. 879	9	10 48 3.65	−14 28 16.59	Weisse's Catalogue.